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WORLD OF SPORT

Shattered dreams
It's ALL in the
WORLD OF SPORT
TODAY

GSS nabs suspects in Wadi Kelt murders

ALON PINKAS and Irit

THE General Security Service has cracked a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine cell in Kalkiya responsible for the July murders of hikers Oshad Bachrach and Uri Shohar in Wadi Kelt. One Palestinian was arrested and two others have been arrested in Jericho. Last month, GSS agents, aided by soldiers, arrested Amin Mustafa Ziad, of Kalkiya, who confessed to the murders. Ziad, 26, a PFLP member, said that he and two accomplices, Youssef Mohammed Ra'i and Shaker Ali Ra'i, also of Kalkiya, went to Wadi Kelt on July 18, and when Bachrach and Shohar, both of whom were armed, showed up, waited for them to enter the pool at the bottom of the site, killed them, took their weapons, and fled to Jericho. Ziad returned to Kalkiya in early August and was arrested shortly thereafter. The arrest of the two other suspects in Jericho is likely to again raise the issue of extradition. Security sources said that the Justice Ministry is preparing an official extradition request and that while no wanted individuals have yet to be extradited by the PA, they are hopeful that the two will be handed over.

A senior diplomatic source said that refusal to extradite the two may result in reciprocal Israeli refusal to free Palestinian prisoners as part of the impending deal on the next phase of the Oslo agreement. Shohar's mother Yehudit called on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to request the extradition of her son's killers, and said they should be turned over for trial before a deal to free more Palestinian prisoners is made.

Zaid was released from Israeli prison in 1994 after completing a four-year term for involvement in PFLP military activity. No information was available on the previous records of Youssef or Shaker Ra'i. Shohar's parents have also



Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet visits the Machpela Cave during his tour of Hebron and Rachel's Tomb yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

Shetreet hints at trade-off with PA if Jews leave Hebron

HERB KEINON

RELIGIOUS Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet yesterday hinted at a possible trade-off with the Palestinians if, as part of the final status agreement, Jews are removed from Hebron, saying that in return the Palestinians may lose authority over areas such as Abu Dis and Hizariya near Jerusalem. "The permanent agreement will have to address all the issues of all the settlements," Shetreet said while on a tour of the Machpela Cave in Hebron. "When the borders are defined, then maybe many areas that are now under control of the Palestinians will have to be removed from Palestinian control, and will become only Israeli." The final status agreement is an "open question," Shetreet said. Hinting at a possible quid pro quo for removing the settlement in Hebron, Shetreet said, "If we move the 415 Jews from here, maybe Palestinian authority will not be maintained in Abu Dis or Hizariya." Shetreet visited Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem together with Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, and then went

Gonzalez: EU likely to nix regional bank

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE European Union is likely to reject a joint appeal by Israel and surrounding Arab countries for a Middle East regional development bank within the next month, effectively killing the idea for now, visiting Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez told Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday. "Gonzalez told the prime minister that most of the European countries are against the development bank. While saying that a formal decision has yet to be taken, he made it clear that it does not look good at all," a Rabin aide said. Gonzalez's statement carries a lot of weight, as Spain currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the EU, and the EU holds an effective veto over the establishment of such a body. A decision on the bank must be made within the next six weeks, before the regional economic summit convenes in Amman. The development bank was expected to be central to plans for financing of infrastructure projects. Gonzalez also met with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and told him the EU is committed to supporting the PA. Arafat's spokesman Marwan Kanafani said the talks were "friendly discussions about the issues and both sides were in agreement. They did not sign anything." Gonzalez made no commitments of new financial or technical aid, Kanafani said. But Gonzalez stressed the need for financial and technical help. "Growth in extremism is a result of poverty and unemployment. We are seeking a way to put an end to these things," he said at a press conference. Arafat complained about the delay in sending funds, but Gonzalez assured him that \$250 million promised by the European Bank would arrive after technical hurdles are cleared. In addition to EU assistance, EU members also have direct bilateral aid agreements with the PA. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who has been active for the last two years in pressing for a development bank, has yet to give up. His meeting with French President Jacques Chirac in Paris yesterday is seen as a last-ditch effort to save the bank by winning French support for the concept. Peres's remarks to reporters yesterday after the meeting suggest that he did not bring Chirac around. He said that France favored other ideas over a bank. A senior Finance Ministry official said that Germany, the EU's leading financial power, has been leading the drive against the establishment of a bank. Finance Ministry officials admit that if EU rejects the idea of a development bank now, it will have effectively killed the idea for the foreseeable future. "The Americans and Japanese have signaled willingness to provide their share, but on the condition that the establishment of such a bank can only be by consensus of the key countries. In other words, if the EU, which would be putting in a chunk of the funds, does not want it, it will not happen," the official said. He said the plan envisioned in a joint appeal by Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and the Palestinians would have big industrialized countries putting down an initial investment of \$1.5 billion over five years, with \$3.5 billion to be added later. The official said the EU is not opposing the bank for financial reasons, but for political motives. "When it comes down to it," he said, "the Europeans do not like the idea that the countries in the region plan their own regional economic development. Instead, they want the countries to be dependent on Europe to decide what they will fund, and what they will not fund." This official also claimed that the EU fears the establishment of a bank would mean bolstering American economic influence in the region, since the US has been supporting the establishment of a bank. An EU official was not available for comment. While refusing to say that the decision not to establish the bank precludes regional infrastructure projects, the official claimed that the net effect will be that the EU will work individually with countries in the region. "The likelihood now is more bilateral instead of regional projects," he said. EU officials have called for the establishment of a regional body that would identify potential development projects, but the body would not be funded to carry out the proposed projects. Gonzalez reiterated the EU's commitment to coordinating international monitoring of the Palestinian elections in the areas, which are expected by year's end. "The European Union is committed to sending observers and to coordinating," he said. "Also, funding has already been earmarked for the elections." Jon Immanuel contributed to this report.

Army kills three Palestinian gunmen in security zone

ALON PINKAS

AN IDF force killed two Palestinian gunmen who penetrated the security zone in south Lebanon near the village of Talloussa in the central sector, the army confirmed last night. A third gunman was killed by helicopter fire in ensuing exchanges between the IDF and Hizbullah artillery, which provided the infiltrators with cover. The identity of the three was not immediately determined, but army sources said they were members of the rejectionist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (PFLP-GC), headed by Ahmed Jibril. The IDF force detected the infiltration attempt yesterday afternoon. An exchange of fire began in which the two were killed and one IDF officer was moderately wounded. He was treated on the spot and later evacuated by helicopter to Rambam Hospital in Haifa. The soldier suffered several bullet wounds in the leg and was operated on yesterday evening. Immediately after the battle, artillery exchanges between IDF and Hizbullah began. Mortar shells from the outskirts of the village of Majdal Salim were fired at IDF and SLA outposts in the area. The exchanges also involved air force attack helicopters. In that engagement the third gunman, hiding between bushes in the rocky area, was apparently killed. The battle took place in the Wadi Suki area, near Talloussa and not far from the IDF outpost in the vicinity of Kantara, in the central part of the security zone. The IDF force began pursuit once the infiltration was detected, while attack helicopters hovered above, releasing missile-deflecting heat balloons. Northern command army sources said that the battle was short and that the IDF force, an infantry unit occupying several outposts, performed meticulously.



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All agree that First International Bank leads

Recent reports penned on the financial prowess of the First International Bank

First International Bank provides mutual funds since 1994, ranked ahead of all other banks in periods of boom and bust, at both high and low risk. (Globe, January 1995)

"Mutual Funds" *mutual fund survey:* "Only one bank managed to outshine the other banks - the First International Bank. A review of the equity-oriented funds shows that their yield was far higher than those of other banks. Indeed, over the past five years, the First International Bank's largest share-oriented mutual fund has provided the highest yield within the mutual fund sector - 217.1% or 26% in annual real terms." (Herald, 27.95)

"Risk Versus Yield" *The First International Bank's* "Bank of Israel staff measured each bank's entire range of risks according to the standard deviation of its profitability, over a relatively long period of nine years between 1986 and 1994." "The First International Bank achieved an average profitability of nearly 10% over the past nine years, when it proved the safest investment in the banking system, with a standard deviation of almost zero." (Herald, 10.6.95)

A report by Housing Securities of Lavallon *on the Israeli capital market:* "The First International Bank is innovative and aggressive, strong loan and deposit growth should continue...one of the most profitable banks...with a balanced credit portfolio...FIBI is in the best position to weather the forthcoming structural changes in the banking sector." (Maar, 1995)

Teachers' Union *First International Bank* "The advanced study fund managements of the Israel Teachers Federation and the Post-Elementary School Teachers Association have transferred the management of their funds to the First International Bank Group. The transfer involves a total of NIS 2.1 billion from 110,000 members accounts." (July 95)

Bank of Israel staff choose *the First International Bank* "Bank of Israel employees have chosen the First International Bank Group to manage their Mevufa provident fund deposits." (April 1995)

YOU NEED AN INNOVATIVE BANK
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Kiryat Arba residents protest 'blood libel'

SOME 100 Kiryat Arba residents protested in front of the police station in the settlement last night against what they said was the "blood libel" by politicians and the police, who have claimed that settlers are responsible for last week's murder in Halhoul of Salman Azamarch.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin vowed yesterday to bring Azamarch's killers to trial.

"We deplore any attempt to

assassinate an innocent Palestinian as happened in Halhoul. We'll do our best to find those who carried out the criminal act and to bring them to court," he said.

Yehoshua Shani, a member of the Kiryat Arba Regional Council, said the protest was taking place in front of the police station because the police "do not differ-

entiate between its professional work and politics. They are being used by the government to serve its political ends."

Shani said that the press and the government have already accused and convicted the settlers. He likened what is happening now to the claims made last year that the police had uncovered a Jewish underground in Kiryat

Arba, claims that turned out to be unfounded.

"This is a provocation by the government to use this tragic incident to further their aims in the talks over Hebron," Shani said.

One man at the demonstration said the reason people are convinced that settlers did not commit the crime is because money was also stolen. "If someone was seeking vengeance, he would not also steal money," he said.

MKs call for debate on Halhoul murder

THE Labor and Meretz Knesset factions have collected the 30 signatures needed to call a special plenum session early next week to take up last week's murder in Halhoul.

The request for the Knesset session was accompanied by a Meretz warning that a "new Jewish underground" is forming, and by a Labor initiative to outlaw Eyal and the Sword of David, organizations suspected of involvement in the incident, in which five men in army uniforms shot a Halhoul man.

The Likud, for its part, has asked that the Knesset debate the impending release of hundreds of convicted terrorists and the ongoing Peres-Arafat talks.

Labor Knesset faction chairman Ra'anana Cohen and his Meretz counterpart, Ran Cohen, submitted the request to call the Knesset into session during the recess, saying that the "Knesset must take up the hideous murder in Halhoul." They expressed the hope that "the completion of the Oslo 2 agreement will propel forward peace in our region and will deliver a severe blow to the terrorists."

Ran Cohen added that he "expects that all Knesset factions will at last see fit to condemn the heinous crime in Halhoul and to denounce its perpetrators." He claims that "the danger of the rise

of yet another Jewish underground is now palpable. It could lead to anarchy and must be nipped in the bud."

Ra'anana Cohen has approached Attorney-General Michael Ben Yair, asking him "to examine the possibility of outlawing Eyal and the Sword of David because they incite to violence and function in a subversive manner. Their members are known to the security services and are suspected of illegal activity."

Likud Knesset faction chairman Moshe Katsav expressed anger at "the constant demand that we, on what is collectively labeled the Right, condemn what

happened in Halhoul. We have done so over and over again and yet it is somehow not enough. It is as if we have to cleanse ourselves of the collectively-ascribed guilt, although it is not even known who did the killing."

"All that is known is that the greatest number of Arabs murdered in cold blood were slain by fellow Arabs of the PLO and Hamas," he added. "This somehow does not arouse the same level of revulsion."

Katsav argued that "reprehensible as the murder was, there are more urgent topics on the national agenda, like the release of many more convicted terrorists, including murderers and those who attempted murder."

Palestinian confesses to Frei slaying

HAMDALLAH Tzameh has confessed to murdering Danny Frei and seriously wounding his wife Mara in their home last week in the settlement of Ma'aleh Michmash, police announced yesterday.

Tzameh, 20, said he carried out the attack in hopes of erasing fellow Palestinians' suspicions he was a collaborator. He was arrested a day after the attack.

The suspect told investigators he purchased a 20 cm. knife and small gas canister in west

Jerusalem to use in the attack.

In early August, he set out from his home in Deir Dibwan to the nearby settlement, but found homes there locked and decided to put off the attack to another time.

Late last Monday night, he returned to Ma'aleh Michmash - about a 10 minute drive from Jerusalem's Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood - and found an unlocked window at the Frei's

home. He first stabbed Danny Frei to death, and then stabbed his wife, Mara, and also sprayed gas at her from the canister, before fleeing. Mara, 29 and five months pregnant, survived the attack, but lost her fetus.

Tzameh fled to the nearby village of Ma'ama, and then to Ramallah, before returning to his home, where he was arrested by the police and General Security Service.

In addition to confessing, Tzameh has also re-enacted the attack in front of investigators.

Poet Mahmoud Darwish to cross into Jericho today

MAHMOUD Darwish, considered the major national Palestinian poet, is expected to return today, the third high PLO official critical of the Oslo accords to cross into Palestinian-controlled

territory this past week.

Darwish, 53, was an Israeli citizen until he joined the PLO and left the country in 1971.

In August 1993 he caused a stir by resigning as an independent member of the PLO Executive committee in apparent protest over Arafat's policies, the first indication that a major political shift was about to take place in Israeli-PLO relations.

But Darwish denied in writing that he was resigning or suspending his membership to protest the Oslo accords. His imminent arrival has been expected on several occasions. He is controversial in Israel especially for poems written during the intifada, which

called not for coexistence but for Israelis to leave the country. He helped write the PLO 1988 "Declaration of Independence."

Senior Fatah activist Abbas Zaki returned last week, declaring he was still against the Oslo accords. Abu Ali Shaheen, who has been very critical of Arafat in the past, organized Fatah with Arafat inside the territories after the Six-Day War but was caught, imprisoned and eventually expelled before returning on Sunday. Arafat himself escaped. Both are expected to organize Fatah as an umbrella organization for all Palestinians.

Israeli who attacked Arab bus in '84 gets early prison release

BILL HUTMAN and JON IMMANUEL

DAVID Ben-Shimol, sentenced to life in prison for firing a hand-launched missile at an Arab bus in Jerusalem in 1984, will be released next week, the parole board decided yesterday.

Ben-Shimol's sentence was cut to 17 years by former President Chaim Herzog. The parole board gave him one-third off that sentence for good behavior.

A man was killed, and over a dozen passengers injured, when Ben-Shimol attacked the bus with the hand-held missile and hand grenades, near the Old City.

At the time, he said he carried out the attack in revenge for the killing of two Jewish teenagers by an Arab terrorist in Jerusalem. Since then, however, he has de-

nounced his action.

Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe said of the decision: "I think this will encourage other fanatics to commit terrorist acts in the occupied territories, especially in this atmosphere after the attack in Halhoul. This is a kind of apartheid - they release Israelis who shed Arab blood but not Arabs who shed Israeli blood, but there is no difference between Arab and Jewish blood."

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, a member of the prisoner release committee discussing the release of Ben-Shimol's release, said of Ben-Shimol's release: "I respect the decision. He did serve two-thirds of his sentence and was released for good behavior."

SHETREET

(Continued from Page 1)
"There has to be reciprocity in the agreement," Shetreet said.

Jon Immanuel adds: Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe said of Shetreet's statement, "It is premature to discuss such suggestions. Now we have a problem in Hebron and we need suggestions on how to solve the problem and not how to complicate it."

In Hebron yesterday, soldiers ordered the Kortiya school principal to bring down the Palestinian flag which was usual as flying on the building, as it has since the beginning of the previous school year.

WADI KELT

(Continued from Page 1)
asked the IDF judge advocate-general to investigate and prosecute whoever was responsible for allowing people to hike in Wadi Kelt at the time of their death, if in fact the army knew the area was dangerous.

The day of the murder, OC



Border policemen stage an exercise on the Bat Yam beach yesterday simulating a terrorist landing. IDF, police, air force, and Gadi forces also participated. (Aron Ron/Israel Sun)

Tzaban: Arrest US Kahane Chai leader

ABSORPTION Minister Yair Tzaban called on Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to order the arrest of Mike Gozovsky, a Kahane Chai leader, who returned here yesterday after several years in the US.

General Security Service agents questioned Gozovsky for several hours at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return here yesterday, according to Gozovsky.

In the letter, Tzaban said that if strict measures are not taken against Gozovsky and people like him, "then we can not claim 'our hands are clean' if we witness terrible acts on their part, including

HERB KEINON and BILL HUTMAN

the spilling of blood."

Tzaban wrote that Binyamin Kahane, the former head of Kahane Chai, which has been banned here, said that Gozovsky will "set up training camps and an armed Jewish force." Gozovsky earned a degree of notoriety two years ago when he organized paramilitary training for Jews in New York.

In the letter, Tzaban quoted from an interview with Gozovsky on the US television program 60 Minutes, during which he said, "Violence is not a good thing or a

bad thing. Sometimes it is necessary, and if it is needed to defend Israel from Rabin and Arafat, then so be it."

Gozovsky, who has been living in New York, said after his arrival here that he is back "to start a Jewish force to protect the settlements."

He said police confiscated several computer diskettes and other material he was carrying in his luggage. Gozovsky was a close associate of the late Kach founder Rabbi Meir Kahane, and has directed the group's US operations since Kahane's murder nearly five years ago.

Tibi: Letter requesting PA police aid is forged

ADVISER to Yasser Arafat Dr. Ahmed Tibi has filed a complaint with Taiba police over what he said are forged letters asking for Palestinian Police intervention to keep law and order in the crime-ridden Triangle village.

Taiba police received a letter ostensibly written and signed by Tibi asking that the Palestinian Police act to fight crime in the area.

The letter read that since local police are not able to control increasing crime, Palestinian policemen should be stationed in the village in an effort to combat

RAINE MARCUS

gang warfare and drug trafficking.

But yesterday Tibi emphatically denied writing the letter and said that other letters had been written to besmirch his name.

"I have also ordered private investigators to discover who is responsible for these letters," he said. "These letters are nonsense and were neither written nor signed by me."

Taiba is known as a central area for drug and weapons dealing and gang warfare. Murders

carried out because of long standing feuds between rival clans are widespread. Last weekend, a divorced mother of two was killed by her 19-year-old son after a family dispute. Seven members of the El Harir clan were charged last week with murdering a resident of Hod Hasharon who stood in the doorway of a rival clan's store.

Last week Sharon police arrested 20 alleged drug dealers in the area and seized large caches of weapons, and have sworn to carry on their war against violent crime in the village.

Anti-settler song played on Voice of Music stirs furor

A SONG played on the Voice of Music has caused an uproar.

"On Thy Ruins, Ofra" by composer and Israeli Prize winner Arif Shapira was played last week. Asked about the title, Shapira is reported to have said he composed it to be played a year after the dismantling of Ofra and other settlements.

After complaints that the station was being politicized, Israel Radio

head Amnon Nadav yesterday convened a meeting of department heads and magazine editor Dani Or-Stav "will be asked to clarify what went on in the program."

Shapira said that "I am considered a political composer, but I didn't want to mix politics and the Voice of Music, so when Or-Stav

asked me about the piece, all I said was that 'since the settlers are busy building the land and making the desert bloom, they have no time for art. So I wrote a piece for them to be played on the anniversary of leaving Ofra and the other settlements.' He laughed, I laughed, and that was that." Helen Kaye



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How the Rosh Hashanah Challah Became Round

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הכרזת מלכות

Demonstrator's application for citizenship delayed

BILL HUTMAN

A BRITISH yeshiva student's application to become an Israeli citizen has been delayed because he was arrested during a demonstration in Hebron.

Yesterday, Eilahu Lorraine, 23, and Likud MK David Mea went to the Interior Ministry offices in Jerusalem to press the student's case, with Mea threatening to go to the High Court of Justice.

Ministry officials, however, said the delay is routine, as is the check of immigration applicants' police and health records.

"It is being checked whether what is contained in his police record affects his eligibility to become an Israeli under the Law of Return," the ministry spokeswoman said in a statement. "In the meantime, he has been offered temporary-resident status."

Lorraine rejected the temporary-resident status when it was offered to him by the ministry last month. "I want to become an Israeli. Why should I accept anything less?" he asked.

Lorraine, who lives in Kiryat Arba, admitted to being detained along with over 20 other settlers during a confrontation with police and Palestinians in Hebron in July.

About a week earlier, he had applied to become a citizen. Returning a month later in hopes of getting his new identity card, he said he was at first told his file was missing.

Several weeks later, ministry officials informed him he would have to wait for up to a year for an answer, because of his police record.

Health Ministry: Not enough inspectors

JUDY SIEGEL

THE director of the Health Ministry's food service division says that he ideally should have some 350 food inspectors, but has only 52. Budgetary constraints have prevented any growth in the number of inspectors over the past five or 10 years, even though the economy and consumption have expanded tremendously.

Dr. Brian Coussin, who returned from a holiday abroad to plunge into the Tnuva long-life milk scandal, said yesterday that he "blames" his inspectors for not discovering that the Rehovot dairy has been adding a "harmless" silicone compound to low-fat long-life milk.

But he nevertheless "wouldn't fire any of them," as it is very difficult to detect and they have thousands of things to check.

The ministry will take Tnuva to court, and the company has already suspended the manager of the Rehovot dairy.

Although Deputy Industry and Trade Minister Masha Lubelsky demanded that Tnuva managing director Yitzhak Landesman take "personal responsibility" for the violation, senior management said it "had no idea" that the chemical has been added for 18 months and could not have known of the violation.

Tnuva and other large food processors are visited two to four times a year for an intensive check by Health Ministry staffers and then every two weeks "more casually to look at one or two points and take samples for processing by the labs," said Coussin.

His inspectors, all of whom have degrees in food chemistry or technology, "do excellent work," he declared, adding that food inspection here is "better than in the U.S. However, there, if violations are discovered, companies are punished more severely because the court system there is better."

Because of the shortage of inspectors, the trend has been to have food companies watch themselves. Industry and Trade Ministry inspectors visit the factory and decide whether to grant Good Manufacturing Process (GMP) seals of approval; if these are granted, government inspections are less frequent and the company is trusted to examine itself.

Coussin insisted that Tnuva's adding of dimethyl siloxane to its one-percent long-life milk was forbidden, because "milk, like baby food, is holy, and nothing may be added."

"This form of silicone is permitted to be added to a variety of foods, so our inspectors didn't notice it," he said. "They are naturally most concerned during their inspections with things that could endanger public health, such as improper pasteurization."

Not picking it up was not negligence. But now, after this incident, our inspections will be tightened."

There is no suspicion that the anti-foaming agent was added to the three-percent long-life milk, as this has more fat and bubbles do not form, Coussin explained.

The Health Ministry said last night that a surprise inspection of the Tene Noga factory in Ashdod, the same silicone compound was found to have been added to an ice cream product without permission. The ministry will take action against the company.

Tnuva also announced it is setting up an outside independent committee to determine who was responsible for the incident.

Students try to find haredi ink-sprayer

A HAREDI youth sprayed ink on a woman dressed in what he considered to be immodest garb in Jerusalem's Mea She'arim neighborhood yesterday, the second incident of its kind recently.

The woman was walking on the street when the youth ran up to her, sprayed the ink on her head, then ran off. Police searched the area, but failed to find the man.

A similar incident happened Sunday, when a young man threw paint on a woman on nearby Yehzekel Street. Police said haredi "modesty guards" had become more active in the area lately.

Meanwhile, the haredi court yesterday decided to send out a group of yeshiva students to try to find those responsible for the attacks. "It is inconceivable that someone take the law into their own hands, and certainly unacceptable for someone to determine the type of punishment," the court ruled.

The yeshiva students are to use unmarked cars and lookouts in the area to find the culprit. Haredi sources said they believe the attacker would be brought before the court within the next few days.

A haredi who attacked tourists with tar some eight years ago was eventually found and "exiled" to Haifa.



Some of the Iraqi prisoners hide from cameras at yesterday's High Court hearing. (Isaac Harari)

High Court orders quick solution to plight of Iraqi refugees

THE HIGH Court of Justice yesterday ordered the interior and police ministers to quickly solve the problem of the 32 Iraqis currently jailed here.

The court ordered the Police Ministry to immediately release two of the refugees who have been in jail for some three years and to find a rapid solution which will allow for the release of the others, as long as they pose no security risk.

The refugees crossed into Israel from Jordan at various times over the past three years, were caught, and had deportation orders prepared against them. All have been jailed since then. Also included in the appeal are two Iraqis who belong to a terrorist gang and were caught at sea by the navy. The two were sentenced to eight years' imprisonment for membership in an illegal organization and, after completing their term, remained in prison for lack of a country willing to take them in.

The appellants claimed they had the status of refugees and that the interior minister could not deport them to a country where they would be endangered because of their race, religion, nationality, or political convictions. They asked to be released and receive temporary political asylum here until a country could be found to take them in.

The government's stand was that it is doubtful they qualify as refugees, because it is doubtful they left Iraq because they were persecuted, since under questioning they said they left for economic reasons. The State Attorney's Office also believes six of them definitely carried out hostile action against Israel.

Court President Aharon Barak wrote in his ruling that there is no doubt that the interior minister has the authority to deport anyone entering the country illegally, and to order their arrest and deportation. But Barak added: "Whoever enters Israel and stays here illegally, while not having the right to remain here, has the right not to have his life endangered either in Israel or in the country to which he is to be deported."

However, Barak said the deportee does not have the right to veto the country to which he is to be deported unless it is clear his life will be endangered there. Barak said the refugees had been imprisoned "too long" and security checks on the threat they pose should have been completed long ago. (Itim)

Pentecostal Christians begin conference here

HAIM SHAPIRO

NEARLY 5,500 Pentecostal Christians from around the world last night began their 17th World Conference in Jerusalem with a prayer service at the Sultan's Pool.

According to Dr. Ray Hughes, chairman of the conference, the Pentecostals are people who have received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the way that people received it on the day of Pentecost here in Jerusalem. A distinctive attribute of Pentecostal believers is their ability to "speak in tongues."

Hughes also noted that Pentecostals, who are a coalition of many churches, believe in the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. The conference is to include healing services. Among the speakers is to be Pat Robertson.

He quoted the World Christian Encyclopedia as saying that the Pentecostal movement is the largest single identifiable force in Protestantism today. Members of mainline Christian churches with similar beliefs are usually identified as Charismatics, he explained.

Hughes said that the movement is very strong in Eastern Europe, especially Russia, Romania, and Bulgaria. It is also one million strong in Indonesia, he said.

Although Hughes refused to comment on whether Pentecostals believe that human intervention in political events could affect biblical prophecy, he did say that the conference has no political agenda.

"We do believe that Israel has a part in the last days prophecy," he said.

Asked about proselytizing, Hughes said that Pentecostals believe that the gospel is for the whole world and it is their mission to go into all the world to preach it. As to whether missionaries will be preaching and handing out tracts in the streets of Jerusalem during the conference, he said that the organizers could not control individuals, but he believes they would be no more active than other Christian groups.

Among the participants are to be about 1,000 local people. Hughes could not say if these are people of Jewish or Arab origin or Christians from abroad.

"We don't differentiate according to race or color or anything like that," he said.

He added, however, that participants would have to register for the worship services, which would be closed to outside visitors, if only because there would be no room for them.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Court rejects Mozes request on lawsuit
Tel Aviv District Court yesterday rejected a demand by Yediot Aharanot editor Arnon Mozes to throw out a suit by Ze'ev Mozes, in which the latter is demanding the upholding of a contract they signed in 1986, saying they would both act as directors of the newspaper.

Ze'ev Mozes is trying to claim that an agreement between Arnon Mozes and Miriam Nofech-Mozes, under which Ze'ev Mozes would be relieved of his duties, was an illegal violation of the 1986 contract.

Hit-and-run offender gets 10 months in jail
Yossi Ben-Lulu, 25, of Eilat, convicted of leaving the scene of an accident after hitting a child while driving without a license and in an unregistered vehicle, was sentenced to 10 months in prison and a year's probation, and had his driver's license taken away for 15 years by Beersheba Magistrate's Court yesterday. After fleeing the scene of the accident, Ben-Lulu parked the vehicle near a synagogue, then reported it stolen to the police.

Survey: Teachers determine school success
Fifty percent of the public believes that the teaching staff has the most pronounced effect on the level of achievement in a school, according to a survey conducted by the Geocartography Institute for Forum, a magazine aimed at school principals.

The survey was conducted among 500 people 18 and over. Asked to choose which of several factors most affect school achievement, 50% said the teaching staff, 22% said the curriculum, 15% said the principal, 12% said the budget, and 2% said the local authority.

Trickle of immigration from Morocco
Immigration from Morocco is taking place at a steady trickle with 14 persons arriving this month, the Jewish Agency confirmed yesterday. Since the beginning of the year, 50 Moroccan Jews have immigrated and in 1994, 77 arrived.

The agency's Boaz Herman noted that increased Israeli tourism to Morocco and the improved attitude of the government there toward Israel have encouraged families to consider immigrating.

The Jewish community in Morocco today numbers 5,000, Herman said, and all are free to immigrate to Israel.

Latvian war criminal to be extradited
The Simon Wiesenthal Center yesterday urged the Latvian government to extradite Latvian war criminal Konrad Kalejs, presently being held in prison in Toronto pending deportation.

During World War II, Kalejs served as an officer in the infamous Arajs Kommando, a Latvian murder squad which executed tens of thousands of Jews and other civilians primarily in Latvia, but in other countries as well, center officials said. In a letter to Latvian ambassador to Israel Dr. Ivars Silars, Wiesenthal Center Israel director Efraim Zurorf asked that Latvia seek Kalejs' extradition so he could be tried for his crimes.

Israelis' trips abroad up 30%
In the first half of this year 940,000 exits of Israelis to points abroad were recorded, up 30 percent from the same period last year and 170% over the same period in 1990.

A total of 720,000 citizens left on flights, up 22% over the same period in 1994. Some 210,000 left via land, including 27% who used the new border crossings into Jordan.

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40 detained in French sweep against terror

News agencies
PARIS

POLICE trying to solve a wave of bombings blamed on Moslem extremists swept through poor suburbs around Paris, Lyon and Grenoble yesterday, rounding up at least 40 people.

Hundreds of investigators also seized a number of weapons, false documents, suspect vehicles, videotapes and literature, according to an Interior Ministry statement.

The second sweep in three days came as security was further tightened and hundreds more army reinforcements were called to monitor French borders, buildings and monuments.

Authorities focused on "radical Islamists... who could lend their help and belong to clandestine networks with terrorist purposes," a Paris police statement said.

Authorities further intensified their search for clues and suspects four days after a car bomb outside a Jewish school in a Lyon suburb injured 14 people.

On Saturday, police raided pro-fundamentalist neighborhoods in the Lyon region, and 22 people were still being held.

The terror attacks began July 25, when a bomb blast in a Paris regional subway train under Place Saint Michel killed seven and injured 84. Dozens of others were injured by blasts near the Arc de

Triomphe and an outdoor market near Place de la Bastille.

Two other bombs, one planted in a public toilet in Paris and another on a high-speed train track near Lyon, failed to go off but resembled the others, made from blue gas canisters filled with nails and bolts.

A Moslem humanitarian organization yesterday condemned the bombing attacks, "especially the one that struck the Jewish school." Islamic Rescue said it "opposes violence of any kind, which has never solved problems."

Dalil Boubakeur, imam of the main Paris mosque joined other religious leaders yesterday to denounce the bombings. "They have nothing to do with the French Moslem community, whose leaders and believers denounce violence," he said.

Boubakeur was joined by Catholic, Jewish and Protestant leaders at a news conference arranged by an anti-racist organization.

At the event, Jewish leader Henri Hajdenberg said he was comforted by Boubakeur's statement that moderate Moslems sought good relations with other religions but called on all France's Moslems to strongly condemn the bombings. There are up to five million Moslems in France.

Bungee coach killed by student

TOKYO (AP) - A man grasping out in a panicked attempt to stop his bungee jump knocked a jump instructor off the tower to his death, police said yesterday.

Officers said they were investigating possible criminal charges against the 23-year-old man, whom they did not identify.

Police said the student jumper apparently changed his mind after his feet already were in the air and reached back to grab coach Koichi Ichino, 64.

The two tumbled nearly six stories. Ichino was killed when he hit the ground, a few meters from safety mattresses, but the bungee cord safely stopped the student's fall, police said.

It was the first bungee jumping death at a Japanese amusement park, police said. Fourteen parks nationwide have bungee jump attractions.

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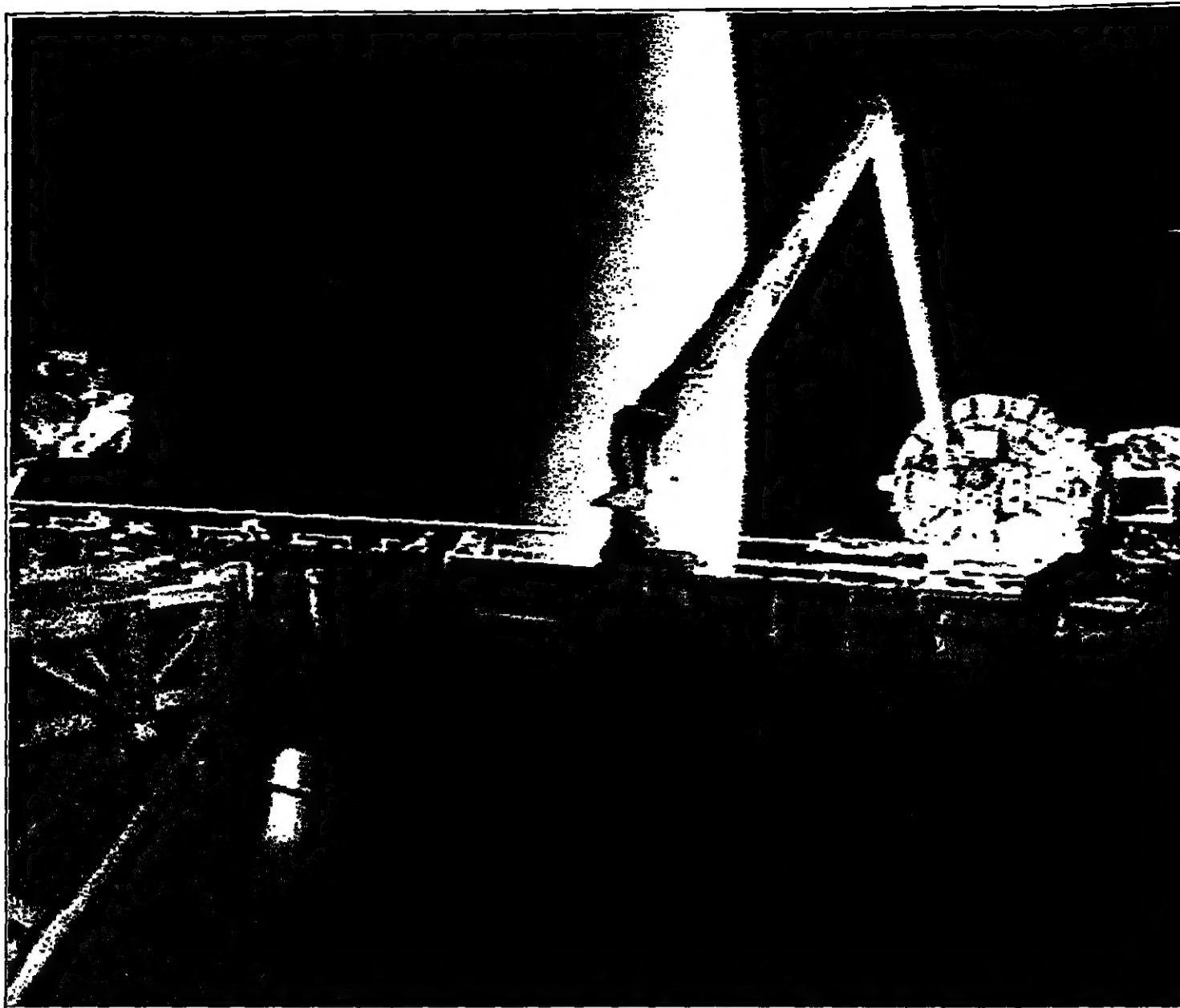
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With dawn rising over the Earth in the background, the arm of space shuttle Endeavour prepares to release the Wake Shield Facility satellite from its hold. (AP)

Endeavor releases satellite after delay

HOUSTON (AP) - Astronaut James Newman hoisted a saucer-shaped steel satellite from Endeavour's cargo bay Monday and set the 1,975-kilo craft free for two days of electronics research.

Newman maneuvered the jointed shuttle crane to raise the \$25 million Wake Shield Facility from its berthing platform. He held the craft over the side of the cargo bay while ground controllers ran a series of tests.

The 3.7 meters steel disk, which resembles a flying saucer, was then commanded from the ground to fire its own nitrogen thruster and slowly back away from the shuttle as the two spacecraft flew 399-km over western Africa.

"It looks real good out the window," said shuttle commander David Walker.

But the release came nearly two hours late because of communications problems with the satellite. And once the satellite was free, there was more trouble.

The radio link between the Wake Shield and shuttle continued to break up at times, and the second of two satellite-thruster firings did not go off as scheduled. That slowed down the separation of Wake Shield and Endeavour.

The satellite is scheduled to be retrieved tomorrow after manufacturing seven high-quality semiconductor films.

Physicists expect the disk, flying broadside forward, to create an ultraclean vacuum in its wake. This should be ideal for growing semiconductor film that is faster and less power-consuming than silicon film now used in com-

puters and other electronics equipment.

Even in the relative vacuum of space, atomic oxygen and other particles can contaminate the delicate process. In the satellite's wake, however, the vacuum is expected to be up to 10,000 times purer than the best laboratory conditions on Earth.

The Wake Shield must fly free of Endeavour to avoid contamination from shuttle exhaust and waste water.

By today, scientists expect it to trail the shuttle by up to 70 km.

If the process proves successful, scientists envision using similar satellites in the future to commercially produce next-generation electronic components. The Wake Shield is scheduled for two more shuttle flights over the next three years.

Greek industry minister resigns in anger

ATHENS (Reuters) - Greek Industry Minister Costas Simitis quit in anger yesterday, charging that the Socialist government was being run by political cliques surrounding Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu rather than ministers.

Simitis, 59, was a founding member of the Socialist party and is one of its most respected members internationally. He has been named to every Socialist administration since Papandreu was first elected in 1981.

In his resignation letter, Simitis said he was not informed

of policy changes and charged that the Socialist party executive office had taken over decisions which should be reserved for the government and its ministries.

"The condition of my staying in the government was my going along with those who constantly agree. I will never sacrifice my independence of thought," he said.

Simitis' resignation followed public criticism by Papandreu over the weekend for the industry ministry's failure to sell state shipyards and a fiasco surrounding one bid in particular.

In charging that political cliques had hijacked government policy, Simitis was making a veiled reference to the entourage of Papandreu, 76, and his wife Dimitra Liani, 40.

"The ministry's work becomes more and more difficult. It is subject to constant political negotiations. It depends on issues which have nothing to do with the industry ministry, such as how PASOK (the Socialist party) works."

Simitis pointed his finger directly at the PASOK executive office, run by Papandreu's long-time political confidant Akis Tsahatzopoulos.

"The ministries work for the good of the Greek people and should not depend on constant negotiations and compromises with the circles of power. The executive office contributes to what is happening," he said.

Simitis, often mentioned as a possible successor to Papandreu, also held the portfolios for commerce, energy and technology.

He was the second prominent

Socialist to get into a fight with Papandreu in the past week, underscoring deep divisions within the ranks of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK).

Former European affairs minister Theodoros Pangalos, once a Papandreu favorite, quit the Socialist central committee after exchanging harsh words with one of the prime minister's closest confidants - Environment Minister Costas Laliotis.

Pangalos also charged the party has been hijacked by political cliques surrounding Papandreu.

Both Pangalos and Simitis have been part of a group of Socialist deputies who have been at odds for months with Papandreu and his wife, who is now seen as a force to be reckoned with.

The split is between those who want a traditional European socialist approach and Papandreu, who since his 1993 election, has accepted the need for privatization and the implementation of harsh EU economic policies.

Dalai Lama seeks US help for Tibetan autonomy

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Dalai Lama launched a new drive yesterday for US help in his 45-year struggle for Tibetan autonomy, but the White House said no meeting had been scheduled with President Clinton.

Instead, at a particularly sensitive time for Sino-US relations, the Dalai Lama was to make his case to key lawmakers, Supreme Court justices and perhaps Vice President Al Gore during a three-day Washington visit.

Clinton met the Dalai Lama, winner of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize and Tibet's exiled spiritual and political leader, during two visits to Washington in 1993 and 1994. China protested against those meetings.

It accuses the Dalai Lama of stirring anti-Chinese revolt in his remote Himalayan land, which was taken over by Chinese troops in 1950.

The Dalai Lama has lived in exile in India since Chinese troops crushed a popular uprising in 1959. Beijing says Tibet has been part of China since the 13th century.

The current Washington visit is awkward for the White House. It is trying to mend China ties frayed since Clinton granted a visa in June to President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan, which China regards as a rebel-held province.

In retaliation for Lee's visit to Cornell University, where he had studied, China recalled its envoy from Washington, stalled on accepting a new US ambassador and cut off US-Chinese military and political dialogues.

The Dalai Lama - a Tibetan Buddhist title that means "Ocean of Wisdom" - arrived in Washington on Sunday night on the last leg of a 10-day US tour that has already taken him to Atlanta, Houston and Boston.

Aides said he would urge US officials to become much more active in trying to bring China to the negotiating table with his government in exile.

Lodi Gyari, the Dalai Lama's special envoy, told a congressional hearing last week that the United States must "use its tremendous leverage with China" to urge Beijing to start substantive talks on the future of Tibet.

The US recognizes what Beijing calls the Tibet Autonomous Region as part of China, a formula decried at the hearing by the Dalai Lama's supporters.

Nepal gets new premier

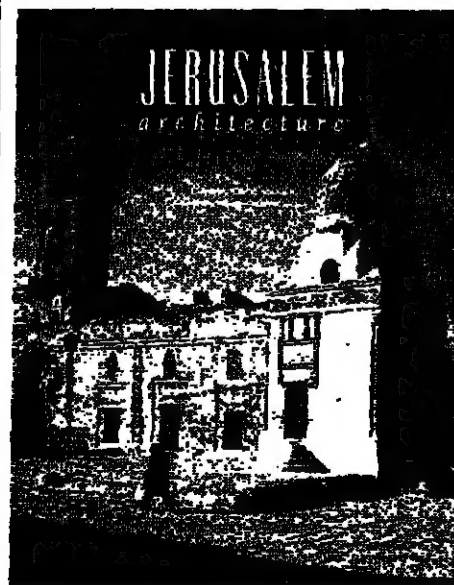
KATHMANDU (Reuters) - King Birendra appointed Sher Bahadur Deuba of the centrist Nepali Congress party as prime minister yesterday to form the Himalayan Hindu kingdom's first coalition government.

The coalition partners promised guarantees on human rights, liberal economic policies and an independent foreign policy giving equal weight and friendship to its giant neighbours China and India.

The Nepali Congress, supported by two other opposition parties, on Sunday defeated communist prime minister Man Mohan Adhikary's nine-month-old government in a vote of no-confidence.

Officials said Deuba was expected to be sworn in as prime minister today and would announce a cabinet later in the day. "My priority will be to give political stability and an impartial and clean administration," Deuba told reporters.

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Women's gathering close to accord

BEIJING (AP) — The head of a UN women's conference yesterday predicted speedy approval of an ambitious plan to improve women's lives as negotiators reached agreement on three difficult issues: sexual freedom, abortion and parental responsibility.

After four days of bargaining, delegates at the Fourth World Conference on Women decided on language yesterday night that balances the rights of children and parents on issues such as teen-age access to sex education and contraception.

The agreement in the key health committee said the child's right to information, privacy and confidentiality should be taken into account along with the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents "in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child."

"It's a beautiful diplomatic balance," said Rachael Kyte, policy analyst with the New York-based International Women's Health Coalition. "Everyone was happy."

The ground-breaking provision on sexual freedom, if approved by the full conference, would recognize for the first time that women have the right to control their own sexuality without coercion.

The abortion agreement asks governments to review laws punishing women who have abortions, while not calling for legalization of the procedure.

Supporters called the sexual rights measure especially significant.

"It allows governments and women's groups around the world to really work at the na-

tional level at how we apply human rights in our sexual lives," said Kyte.

"The world has been talking about reproduction in terms of population control for over 20 years, but nobody's really ever talked about sex," she said. In the age of AIDS, she added, women must be free to refuse unwanted sexual advances.

Meanwhile, conference participants had more run-ins with Chinese security.

The Chinese tried to break up a news conference by exiled Tibetan women and foreign delegates supporting their cause. In another incident, guards surrounded and tried to shoot away a group of exiled Iranian women protesting on the conference grounds.

China, unprepared for the free-wheeling debate the conference has generated, has acted to keep a tight lid on protests in Beijing. Last week, it sharply rebuked foreign delegates who had made negative comments about government policies.

Yesterday, China's official news agency, Xinhua, praised speakers who had "followed the theme of the conference" for their "constructive attitudes."

None of the previous criticism, including Hillary Rodham Clinton's strongly worded comments on the repression of human rights, has been reported in the official press.

As the conference entered its final days, delegates from 189 member states were still working on some contentious issues: money, sexual orientation and inheritance rights for girls.



NATO cruise missiles cause severe damage to Bosnian Serb positions

TOMAHAWK cruise missiles fired at Bosnian Serb air defense systems caused "severe damage," NATO said yesterday.

However, an official said the system was not completely destroyed and that they will continue to attack it as long as it poses a threat to pilots.

Russia accused NATO of using Bosnia as a testing ground for methods of imposing the western alliance's domination in post-Cold War Europe, Itar-Tass news agency said.

President Bill Clinton backed the use of the Tomahawks as a protection for NATO pilots, the White House said.

"The president has indicated this morning that he fully supports the decision by NATO military commanders to use cruise missiles in attacking Bosnian Serb surface-to-air missile sites yesterday," White House spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters.

He said Clinton said that the "safety of allied pilots, especially US pilots flying in US aircraft, is of great concern to him."

The missiles were fired from the USS Normandy late Sunday, aimed at radar, surface-to-air missile sites and communications stations in northwestern Bosnia.

"There are indications that we caused severe damage to some of those targets," said Group Captain Trevor Murray at a briefing for reporters.

NATO has maintained it is attacking only targets it considers important for the Bosnian Serb military. Asked whether the missiles caused any civilian casualties, Murray said NATO had no indication the attacks hit civilians.

Murray did not rule out further attacks by cruise missiles, used for the first time in the war in Bosnia. "If suitable, we may well use it again, as we will use other types of weapons," Murray said.

In its first public assessment of the damage, NATO refused to give any specifics on what exactly was hit and where. The general

area of the attack was in the Banja Luka area, northwest of Sarajevo.

Murray said NATO forces have been equipped with Tomahawk missiles throughout the war, and that the decision to use them was made within the last week.

NATO officials said the anti-aircraft defenses pose a high risk for pilots, which led them to use the missiles.

Aircraft have also been hampered by bad weather.

In attacks again yesterday morning, aircraft encountered shoulder-fired missiles, which shot down a French plane two weeks ago, officials said.

All aircraft returned safely. Banja Luka is near where Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady was shot down by a Serb missile on June 2 while on a NATO mission to enforce the ban on flights over Bosnia. He was rescued six days later.

Murray said the decision to use the missiles was not directly related to O'Grady but that "the risk to pilots is of prime concern" to NATO planners.

Thirteen cruise missiles, each costing \$1.5 million, were fired from the Normandy, cruising in the Adriatic. F-18 fighter-bombers from the USS Roosevelt also took part in the attack.

Itar-Tass news agency quoted a

Foreign Ministry statement as saying that despite new possibilities for political settlement in Bosnia, NATO chose to step up military action against the Bosnian Serbs by firing the Tomahawk missiles.

"There is an impression that NATO under the disguise of statements about its commitment to a political solution, is in fact turning the long-suffering land of Bosnia into a testing site for imposing its 'new role' in European and international affairs," the statement said.

"(Such actions) only aggravate the crisis and are absolutely impermissible."

Russian President Boris Yeltsin has strongly denounced the NATO operation aimed at forcing the Bosnian Serbs to lift the siege of Sarajevo.

Russian envoy Vitaly Churkin met NATO ambassadors in Brussels earlier on Monday in an unsuccessful attempt to stop the military action against the Serbs.

In a separate statement Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev praised an agreement reached on Friday between the main players in the Yugoslav conflict which laid down basic principles for peace in Bosnia, Tass said.

Regarding concerns about the NATO bombing campaign expressed by Yeltsin, McCurry said US officials were "very cognizant" of the pressure Yeltsin has been under from political opponents in Moscow.

Russian deputy starts action against Zhirinovsky

MOSCOW (Reuters) — A Russian woman deputy said yesterday she was taking legal action against ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky for assaulting her in a brawl in parliament that left liberal commentators shaking their heads in shame.

The fiery Zhirinovsky seized Yevgenia Tishkovskaya round the neck and face and tugged her by the hair during a tussle in the lower house of parliament on Saturday in which Orthodox priest Gleb Yakunin had a chained crucifix ripped from his neck.

The unprecedented scenes in the State Duma, only three months before a national election, drew condemnation from liberal commentators.

"The whole world saw this shame. It is a disgrace for parliament and for those who did not protect the woman and stop the hooligans," Yevgeny Kiselyov, anchorman of the high-rating television news programme Itogi, on Sunday night.

The brawling, shown repeatedly by television channels through the weekend, erupted during an angry debate on Bosnia.

Yakunin, a liberal deputy, was involved in a scuffle with right-wing parliamentarian Nikolai Lysenko.

Lysenko finally snatched a chain and crucifix from the neck of the berobed Yakunin who habitually wears a cross in the chamber although he has been unfranked by the Orthodox church.

As a security guard restrained Lysenko and Yakunin was recovering, Zhirinovsky arrived on the scene to give the priest a violent shove from behind.

Tishkovskaya, a member of the New Regional Policy party, then waded in to help Yakunin but found herself grappling with Zhirinovsky.

Itar-Tass news agency quoted Tishkovskaya as saying Zhirinovsky had shouted encouragement to Lysenko as he set about Yakunin: "Beat him Kolya! Strangle him! Rip off his cassock!"

As security guards appeared to succeed in separating the two sides, the fighting took off again. Viewers saw Zhirinovsky pull Tishkovskaya by the hand.

When she landed a punch, he seized her around the neck and twisted her face, dislodging her glasses.

As she was being led away, Zhirinovsky reached out and seized her by the hair. "Get out of here, scum," he shouted.

"I suddenly felt that somebody was trying to strangle me. Then I was painfully seized by the hair. I saw it was Zhirinovsky," Tishkovskaya said.

French seize legislators' yacht in South Pacific

PAPEETE, Tahiti (AP) — A union leader suspected of instigating riots last week after France resumed nuclear tests has been charged and jailed, judicial sources said yesterday.

Hiro Tefarere of the Aia I Maa union was jailed at Nuanua prison after a variety of charges were lodged, said the sources.

Five other union militants were arrested at Aia I Maa headquarters, the sources said, without specifying the charges.

Meanwhile, eight legislators from Japan, Europe and Australia detained when France seized a protest yacht near its test site in the South Pacific were set free.

Commandos from a French navy vessel boarded the yacht La Ribande about 1.5 km inside the 20-km exclusion zone and escorted it to Mururoa atoll, the command center for French nuclear tests.

The yacht, chartered by

Greenpeace, had been part of an anti-nuclear flotilla sailing around the atoll, about 1,200 km southeast of Tahiti. One of those on board, Australian Senator Tom Wheelwright, said the anti-nuclear movement was alive despite setbacks.

"It has not abated in any sense or form," he told AP Television. "The feeling is still very strong and the commitment is still there."

Others on board included lawmakers Koh Tanaka and Noboru Usami from Japan, Eva Goes from Sweden, Lino De Beni from Italy, and Sauru Turroni from Italy.

Webster from Luxembourg and Ian Cohen of Australia. Two members of the Australian environmental group Global 2000, Ilonka Horvath and Klaus Kastenhofer, and seven journalists were on board.

All the legislators, activists, journalists and ship's crew were freed and flown to Papeete.

Search for hurricane victims continues

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten (AP) — Military frogmen dived deep into the lagoon of an exclusive Caribbean marina, searching a graveyard of 200 sunken yachts and houseboats for victims or survivors of Hurricane Luis.

Above water, people at Simpson's Bay Lagoon said divers brought up a woman, barely alive, over the weekend. They said she had been saved by an air pocket in the hull of a sailboat. US Consul General Buddy Williams said the divers brought up a body.

They appeared to be describing the same scene amid the confusion surrounding the death toll and number of missing people on this Dutch-French island.

"The expectation is that the death toll will be higher, of

course," said Izzy Gerstenbluth, a Dutch Department of Health representative and Red Cross official.

Initially, nine people were reported dead on the island. Lt. Gov. Dennis Richardson later said there were five dead on the Dutch side — three natives, a Haitian and an unidentified victim. The French side reported one death.

The US State Department said an American was among casualties on the Dutch side, but it was not clear if that was the unidentified person.

Six other deaths have been confirmed in the Caribbean from Luis' rampage — two each in Antigua and Puerto Rico and one each in Guadeloupe and Dominica — for a total official toll of at least 12.

Kohl pushes German ties with South Africa

CAPE TOWN (Reuters) — German Chancellor Helmut Kohl promised in an address to South Africa's parliament yesterday to promote stronger economic ties and to encourage easier access to European Union markets.

Kohl addressed South Africa's 15-month-old democratic parliament after talks with President Nelson Mandela and the signing of a treaty to protect and promote German investment.

"We would like, and this is also my personal wish, to intensify the overall South African-German dialogue on all levels...parliament, the churches and the arts and cultural sector," Kohl said.

"At the same time, we support your country's desire for greater access to the European market. And we also give this our emphatic support in negotiations between the EU and South Africa."

Kohl paid tribute to Mandela and his coalition government for South Africa's peaceful transition to majority rule, but warned members of parliament and sena-

tors in a joint session that the new democracy could face challenges.

"I should like to strengthen you in your resolve to continue decisively along the path of political, economic and social construction."

"Don't be discouraged by difficulties and setbacks," he said.

Kohl, the first German chancellor to visit South Africa, promised to encourage trade with South Africa and said his country would try to even out the imbalance in which German exports are almost double its purchases from South Africa.

Kohl told reporters in the garden of Mandela's Tuynhuys office earlier that economic growth was a key to political stability.

"It is my emphatic intention that we take a big, new step in the intensification of economic relations so that there will be as many new jobs as possible as quickly as possible. I would like to assure you we will lend you all the support you will need," he said.

cent margin of error," he said, to the laughter of the crowd. "That means, Arlen Specter may not even exist."

Few operatives of rival campaigns take Specter seriously. "Why is he doing this? What does he think he can achieve by getting in the face of social conservatives and people of faith?" one asked last week. He asked not to be identified.

In Boston, Specter won warm applause from the community activists when he vowed to moderate Republican efforts to reform welfare.

"I'm going to try to make sure that welfare reform does not make victims out of children who come into the world innocent," he said.

He said he would fight attempts by his own party to cut funding for drug-free schools and heating programmes for the poor. In a field of candidates pledging to abolish the Education Department, Specter says he would preserve it.

But most of those who applauded were probably Democrats, Specter noted wryly. "In being the only pro-choice candidate and knowing that 71 percent of Republicans support a woman's right to choose (to have an abortion), I have to get those people off the sidelines," he said.

(Reuters)

Arlen Specter — lonely voice in Republican race

ALAN ELSNER
WASHINGTON

Coalition.

Some Jewish groups protested, saying the decision created the impression Specter was being excluded because he was the only non-Christian candidate, an allegation the Coalition vehemently denied.

Last month, Specter was the only candidate booed and hissed at a gathering of several thousand Republicans in Ames, Iowa. "I got booed in Iowa last month because the place is packed with the fringe element," he said.

"We've got to have an open party. If we knuckle under to a candidate of the intolerant right, we will end up reelecting the president of the incompetent left."

So far, Specter has made little impact in the race. He is languishing in polls of Republican voters, usually scoring between two and five percent in a large field so far dominated by Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas.

Conservative commentator Pat Buchanan, whose fierce right-wing views stand in stark contrast to those of Specter, mocked him in his speech to the Christian Coalition.

"Arlen Specter has one percent support in the latest polls. And that's with a three per-

cent margin of error," he said, to the laughter of the crowd. "That means, Arlen Specter may not even exist."

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The Council of Youth Movements in Israel, Tel. 02-6510212

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Gaddafi's transfer

LIBYA'S dictator Muammar Gaddafi says he is expelling all 30,000 Palestinians living in his country. His reason: he wants to embarrass Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority for being, as he puts it, Israel's lackeys. Since Arafat cannot, according to the Oslo agreement, accept large numbers of immigrants without Israeli permission, the wanderings of thousands of stateless, homeless Palestinians who cannot enter areas ruled by the PLO should indeed embarrass him.

Nor is Gaddafi merely making threatening noises. By Sunday, he expelled 6,000 Palestinians, many of whom have already crossed the border to Egypt on buses on their way to Gaza through Rafiah. Another 2,000 Palestinians have managed to slip into Lebanon, using Lebanese travel documents most Palestinians in Libya possess.

But the Lebanese government has officially declared it would prevent the flooding of Lebanon with Palestinian refugees. Severing all maritime connections with Libya, it has ordered Lebanese ports to bar entry to refugee ships. The prospect of such ships roaming the seas, unable to find a country which will accept them, has become all too real.

Not since the expulsion of 750,000 Yemenis from Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War and the mass expulsion of Palestinians from Kuwait after that war (which caused the resettlement of 250,000 of them in Jordan and almost 60,000 in Judea and Samaria) has there been such a major population transfer in the region.

But it is doubtful that Gaddafi's reason for the expulsion has anything to do with embarrassing Arafat. He has expelled not only Pales-

tinians, but 7,000 Egyptians.

Libya's economy, adversely affected by international sanctions and the low price of oil, obviously cannot accommodate the many thousands of foreign workers it once attracted. The unrest in the country's major cities, also partly due to the deteriorating economy, has prompted Gaddafi to expel foreigners for fear they would join a revolution against him. Referring to a ruthlessly quashed plot against him in a weekend speech, Gaddafi warned "spies, traitors, agents and cowards" not to expect to live among Libyans.

But the reason for the Palestinians' expulsion is less relevant than the fact of life it exposes: That except for Jordan, no country has been willing to integrate its Palestinians. Though they share religion, peoplehood, language and culture with their host countries, most Palestinians live as aliens subject to expulsion. And any deterioration of the economic or political situation makes it tempting to expel them. Once an independent Palestinian state is established, which can only increase nationalistic irredentism and feeling of separatism among the mistreated Palestinians in these countries, the temptation may become irresistible.

It is at this point that a Palestinian state, unfettered by Israeli constraints, will find it difficult to reject Palestinian refugees. And since most such refugees claim the right to "return" to Green Line Israel, a Palestinian state may deploy them in camps along Israel's border, and demand that Israel accept them.

This is one possible consequence of the present peace process the government is understandably reluctant to discuss.

Conspiracy of benevolence

THE religious leader of the main Paris mosque has rejected the association between Islam and the current bombing campaign in France. In doing so he repeated the well-worn viewpoint that Islam is not violent, Islam is not terrorism, Islam is not intolerance. "Islam is not these phenomena that we call fundamentalism," said Dalil Boubakeur. "Islam is respect for one another and for life; it is a nobility of the heart, generosity, conviviality and a respect for authority."

With due respect for the Moslem leader's sincerity, much of the world would beg to differ. And much of the blame must be placed at the door of the mosque and at the doors of Moslem leaders who have failed to win their own followers over to their vision of a moderate and spiritual Islam, much less convince the rest of us.

Anyone familiar with the Middle East knows that the key to what is going on among the grass roots is not to be found in the public pronouncements of politicians and religious leaders allied to them. It is to be found in the Friday sermons delivered in the mosques and in the tapes and printed statements circulating among the faithful. What is circulating and seeking power in the Moslem world from Algeria to Pakistan is just the opposite of that tolerant benevolence espoused by Imam Boubakeur. If moderate Islamic leaders will not root it out, then it is the rest of the world that has to look to safeguarding its citizens and its institutions against what has become a near universal conspiracy of subservience.

Pleading for a new image of Islam is little

comfort to French parents who must worry about their children going to school, worry about their own train rides to work, worry about the trash cans outside their favorite cafes. And why are they worried? Why must they endure the uneasy spectacle of more armed police and soldiers on their Parisian streets? Not because of devout Moslems going to mosque for prayer.

Islamic fundamentalist militancy is a dangerous python that is now threatening to strangle even those liberal democracies that not only allow mosques to be built in their Judeo-Christian cultures, but that actively encourage ethnic diversity as a cultural asset. Unfortunately, many mosques and Islamic welfare organizations in Europe and the United States have become Trojan horses filled with hateful, spiteful, dangerous extremists. They have become centers for fund-raising and propaganda, safe houses for terrorists, and networks of support for those on the run.

It is not enough for Moslem leaders to be pleading for tolerance of Islam - a tolerance which is strictly denied other religions even in such pro-Western states as Saudi Arabia. Western democracies are tolerant enough - to a fault, it would seem. It is up to all those moderate leaders and devout Moslems who are constantly being lectured about to take action. It is easier for them to root the snakes out of their communities and hand them over to the authorities for investigation than it is for outsiders. If they do not, the day will come when there will be little tolerance left for any Moslem, devout or otherwise, on the streets of Paris or any democratic city.

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FROM ALGERIA?



OLEG 95

Leave well enough alone

YOSEF GOELL

THERE are times when people, understandably disgusted with the parlous state of politics, are driven to the belief that change - any kind of change - can only be for the better.

Quite often, however, change turns out for the worse.

One of the sorriest recent examples we have in Israeli politics is the shift of most of our political parties to various forms of primaries for selecting their Knesset candidates.

What could be worse, many argued, than the system whereby the party political bosses got together in the Israeli version of the smoke-filled back rooms of American politics, and struck deals to set up the party list? The primaries that have replaced those smoke-filled rooms; that's what.

One doesn't have to go to the opposite extreme of blaming all our political ills on the primaries to agree that they have unquestionably contributed to the deterioration of our politics.

There can be no question about this when one contemplates the number of clowns (and worse) among our latest crop of MKs; the shameful antics of the Knesset as a body; and the diversion of many MKs from the serious to the frivolous aspects of their functions, because they believe this is crucial for their reelection.

A very similar fate, I am afraid, awaits those who are banging the drums for changing our proportional election system to constituency elections, or some compromise between the two.

The main argument in favor of going over to constituency elections is that they would give voters who are frustrated with the lack of accountability of their MKs the feeling that they have a

"personal" MK. This personal MK would reportedly be exquisitely sensitive to his or her voters' every wish as a condition for reelection.

IN A RECENT article on these pages (August 16) Lucien Harris urged that we "take a tip from the British" in going over to constituency elections.

Now it is understandable that Israelis from different countries often develop nostalgia for their former homelands, and would like to see Israel adopt the prac-

Look at the US with its constituency system, and shudder at the corruption of its politics

tices that were the norm "in the old country." But such adoptions rarely survive the transition.

I would suggest, instead, that we look at the US, shudder at the infinitely worse corruption of politics there as a result of its constituency system, and choose not to ape the practices of others blindly.

The US may have had no real alternative, given its sheer size and federal makeup.

But Israel is one of the tiniest countries in the world. It has no real political differences that divide according to locality or region - unless one wants to speak of Greater Tel Aviv from Netanyahu to Rehovot, as against the rest of the country.

Non-existent regional or local interests can be artificially creat-

ed and fostered, however, as the basis for a politician's reelection.

Do we really want to emphasize local and parochial interests over national issues around which we are legitimately divided? Even under the present system, things are bad enough with the inordinate political weight given to the interests of the Coastal Plain.

Why make the situation even worse?

It is a fallacy that constituency voting would make the legislator accountable to his constituents. The reality is that legislators in such systems nearly always become beholden to the vested interests - primarily financial - in their constituencies (which are often opposed to the real interests of the rest of their constituents).

The very idea of having MKs serve as an address for constituents who want favors from the government bureaucracy has an older Israeli term: *protektzia*. That is the way towards infinitely worse corruption.

A far better way to help Mr. Average Israeli in his confrontation with an anonymous and often insensitive bureaucracy would be to strengthen the role and powers of the ombudsman.

The major argument against constituency elections is that we need a strong legislative branch of government as an essential counterweight to the power of a directly elected prime minister.

Constituency elections would fragment the Knesset even more, making it easier for a strong executive to buy or otherwise bribe individual MKs, in exchange for their support.

That is the last thing in the world we should be after.

The writer comments on public affairs.

A needed shot in the arm

GAD YA'ACOB

RECENTLY there have been doubts about the merit of directly electing the prime minister, and other proposed reforms. Since these reforms are crucial, it is vital that any doubts be addressed.

The political parties and the Knesset itself have enacted several reform proposals over the past several years. These include direct election of mayors and regional councils, direct election of the premier, and preliminary elections - primaries - for candidates for premier, mayor, MKs, and other elected officials.

Of the reforms, the proposal for direct election of the premier, to go into effect in the 1996 elections, is the most significant. It will transform Israel's political culture.

Direct election of the prime minister guarantees that the premier will be chosen during the first or second rounds of balloting, thereby ensuring that the horse-trading between the major parties takes place before the voting, and not after it. This greater "transparency" should translate into greater popular support for the premier and his government.

Whatever its critics charge, direct election of the prime minister is not a transition to a presidential system. Our system has enough built-in safeguards against the premier becoming a "dictator," or even a president.

According to the law that was passed, an absolute Knesset majority can pass a motion of no-confidence in the prime minister, and move to dissolve the Kness-

et. (In a pure presidential system, the legislative branch cannot shorten the term of the chief of the executive branch, except through impeachment, as the US Congress is empowered to do).

This provision - coupled with a disincentive in the law for the Knesset to take these steps - should lead to a Knesset more attuned to the public's needs. The new law will also strengthen the executive branch of the government.

Direct election of the prime minister will transform Israel's political culture

through a truer separation of powers from the legislature. Unlike the American system, in which only the president can enact executive decisions, the government will now be empowered to make executive decisions based on a ministerial majority.

Likewise, the new system will differ from a presidential system because elections for the Knesset and for prime minister will take place concurrently. Furthermore, only the head of a party slate with at least 10 MKs can be a candidate for prime minister.

THESE LAWS will strengthen the parliamentary system. The checks and balances on the gov-

ernment will be enhanced, and the reform will put an end to the problems associated with previous attempts at assembling a government.

The public will feel that it has a greater influence on the government's behavior, and the Knesset will no longer be held captive by its members from small parties and factions who act in contravention of the will of the majority.

However, the new law is not without its defects.

The original intention was that the prime minister would not have to present his government to the Knesset for its approval. Yet, under the pressure of the small parties, and from MKs who had reservations regarding the new law, it was decided that the prime minister must receive the Knesset's approval of his government.

Despite this flaw, it seems to me that the system is preferable to the one that has existed up till now. The flaws of the old system were obvious, and the price of wooing small factions and co-opting coalition partners went beyond the scope of acceptable politics. As a result, there was a noticeable decline in people's faith in politics and the government.

The writer is Israel's ambassador to the UN. He served as Labor Party chairman of the Committee to Reform the Electoral System and the Government, and as chairman of the ministerial committee on the subject.

In any event

AVRAHAM TAMIR

THE prime minister has recently begun to reveal to us where, in his opinion, the compromise territorial boundary should run in Judea and Samaria. At the same time, Yasser Arafat continues to proclaim openly that the Palestinian struggle will continue until a Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its capital, is established within the June 4, 1967 borders.

It isn't hard to conclude from this assertion that if Arafat's hopes don't materialize (and if Yitzhak Rabin is serious about his borders it's not clear how they can) a new intifada may very well erupt. Its front line will be on the borders of the territories which will come under Palestinian control under the terms of Oslo 2.

Meanwhile, for internal electoral purposes, Rabin and Arafat want a showy event in the form of a "historic agreement." That's also what President Clinton wants, for his own reasons. He has even offered the White House lawn for the ceremony.

The fact that many question marks still hang over the "Taba Agreement" and that the agree-

The White House can wait

ment doesn't - in contrast to the claim of its architects - appear to be any kind of breakthrough toward a final pact on security and peace doesn't particularly bother these three aspirants for a Washington signing.

Neither does the fact that the struggle for Jerusalem has already begun, and that waves of terrorism threaten the personal security of Israelis.

YET THESE realities cannot be denied. Why, then, the need to celebrate an interim agreement in Washington, with great fanfare, when it may run aground?

Is it because of any festive feelings in Israel? Certainly, no such sentiment exists. The nation is split as never before; and public faith in security experts, who are tied firmly to the government's apron strings, is diminishing.

Is it because people trust that peace and security will be achieved by interim agreements based on the Camp David principles? But anyone who believes that should remember that those principles were forged as a result of Menachem Begin's tenacity in preventing the beginnings of any non-Israeli sovereignty in the areas of Eretz Israel west of the Jordan River.

As a member of Israel's delegation to the Camp David talks, I have no doubt that had Begin visualized any "territorial compromise" à la Rabin, he would have drafted the agreement reached then accordingly.

And in that event, we would have found the Camp David records serving as the basis for permanent Israeli boundaries with a Jordanian-Palestinian federation; in relevant interim phases; for religious accommodations in a united Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty; and for freedom of movement, trade, and rights of residence for Jews within the anticipated federation and subject to its laws.

None of these things exist; and their absence undermines the link between the Camp David accords and the new agreements - as well as greatly dissipating the hopes vested in those agreements.

But perhaps the need for a ceremony in Washington stems from the fear of stopping; of crystallizing a new policy, one in line with reality? Maybe its purpose is to allow its participants to avoid admitting personal failure?

The writer, a retired IDF general, has been director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

POSTSCRIPT

THE CORSET and drawers that Queen Elizabeth I may have died in were on display at an exhibition in London's Westminster Abbey.

The underwear was found on a mannequin of the "virgin queen" who died in 1603.

"The most recent restoration of that effigy [mannequin] shows that the original corset and drawers from 1603 were kept," said the abbey librarian. "We don't know if it is the underwear she died in but it certainly belonged to her. The corset has a very slim waist."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OUR GRANDCHILDREN'S FUTURE

Sir, - In his article of August 18, Ariel Sharon asks for volunteers to aid settlers establishing themselves on rocky outcrops in Judea and Samaria. This illegal enterprise, aimed at fulfilling a vision of a greater Israel, is pure rhetoric, and I could not contemplate volunteering for it. I did volunteer in 1948 along with a few thousand other Mahalniks to help secure the frontiers of a newborn state. The Egyptians were 40 km. from Tel Aviv. The Jordanians occupied Lydda. Kauji was knocking on the gates of Safed.

For 47 war-torn days, I have dreamt that one day Israel would live in relative harmony with its Arab neighbors. Egypt, now Jordan and who knows next, could bring this dream to fruition.

It is the Sharons, the Kahanes, the Weisses, the Levingers and the Hasams people who try to undermine this process of peace. They will not prevail. Sooner or later they will realize that coexistence is not a dirty word and that a strong, economical, sound Israel surrounded by friendly neighbors is the way forward for our grandchildren's future.

STANLEY MEDICKS
Coordinator,
British and European Mahal
Association
London

CONTRASTING DEMOCRACIES

Sir, - When the Supreme Court of the United States determined that blacks should be integrated into the school system in Alabama, federal troops escorted the children into the school. Notwithstanding the ferocious opposition of many (probably the majority) of the local population, including the governor of the state, the troops assured the black children's entrance.

When the Supreme Court of Israel determined that Jews were to be allowed to pray on the Temple Mount, the government put police in place. However, instead of assuring that Jews would be allowed to pray there as demanded by the court's decision, the police forced the Jews off the Temple Mount because of Arab opposition.

Eventually in Alabama, the local population, albeit begrudgingly, accepted blacks in local schools. In light of the police action on the Temple Mount, it is doubtful that the Arabs will accept the right of Jews to pray there. Had the police performed their duty, enforcing the decision of the Supreme Court of Israel, the Arabs would have had to accept the Jewish rights, even begrudgingly.

MARCEL SHWARGOLD
Jerusalem

ARAFAT'S DUPLICITY

Sir, - In the *Eye on the Media* of August 11, David Bar-Ilai writes that "the Jewish Chronicle boycotts Garmel and others who disagree with its policy may be annoying, but the privately owned paper has a perfect right to ban writers who do not support its leftist line on Israel." Privately owned journals do not have the moral right to deny right of reply to misleading statements. I complained to the Press Complaints Commission because the editor refused to correct a misleading statement by allowing me, or anyone else, to point out that the PLO had not amended its Covenant to recognize Israel, an undertaking unconditionally given by Arafat.

However, on August 4, the JC did publish a letter of mine drawing attention to that failure of the PLO, as well as the duplicity of Arafat in sending a message of "heartfelt congratulations" to Saddam Hussein on his "unanimous reelection" as leader of the Iraqi Socialist Ba'ath Party, and for appointing Abu Medeen as PA Justice Minister. On May 7, at a seminar in Gaza on the licensing of weapons in the self-rule area, Medeen declared: "We are convinced that the main enemy of the Palestinian people now and in the future, is Israel. That is a fact which cannot be denied."

JACK GARNEL
Hove, Sussex

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

'ER' wins record-tying eight Emmys

THE hyper-paced medical drama *ER* nearly made Emmy history at the 48th annual Prime-Time Emmy Awards Sunday, but its triumph was upset at the last minute by a series, about four-mouthed yet concerned police detectives, *NYPD Blue*.

NBC's *ER* scored eight Emmys in its freshman season, including those for best supporting actress, best direction and best writing. The drama's wins tied it with *Hill Street Blues* for the record for most Emmys ever won by a series in a single season. The show was nominated for 23 Emmys.

But a record-breaking ninth Emmy was snatched away from *ER* when *NYPD Blue* swept in to snatch away the award for best drama series.

Even the show's co-creator, Steven Bochco, seemed to be caught off-guard as he accepted, saying, "What a surprise. Holy mackerel." *NYPD Blue* won only two other awards.

Candice Bergen, who plays TV newswoman in the *Murphy Brown* series, won her fifth Emmy.

One of the most popular winners among the Emmys handed out at the 47th annual awards was actor Ray Walston, who plays the blunt, philosophical judge on the series *Picket Fences*. Walston's movie credits include *South Pacific* and *Damn Yankees*, but he was best known for playing the eponymous space alien on the long-running TV series *My Favorite Martian*.

He was as much a hit with the crowd at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium as his 73-year-old costar Pyrysh Finkel had been last year when he won in the same category. Obviously excited, the 76-year-

old Walston said, "I have 30 seconds to tell you that I've been waiting 60 years to get on this stage."

Besides *ER*, the evening's other big winners were NBC's comedy series *Frasier*, and singer-producer-director Barbra Streisand.

Frasier, about a pompous radio psychiatrist, won its second consecutive Emmy for best comedy series in its second season. The show, a spinoff from *Cheers*, also scored four additional Emmys, including a best comedy actor award for star Kelsey Grammer, and the award for best supporting actor for David Hyde Pierce, who plays the star's brother.

Streisand came away a victor for two very different programs. Her HBO special, *Barbra Streisand: The Concert* won five

Emmys, including best music variety or comedy special and best individual performance in a variety or music program.

Streisand, who received one of the evening's rare standing ovations, said the last time she had won an Emmy was for her first television special 30 years ago. Her award for best individual performance was more significant, she said, because of the self-doubts she had faced while putting together the concert tour.

Streisand was also an executive producer of *Serving in Silence: The Margaret Cammermeyer Story*, which won three Emmys: for best actress Glenn Close, best supporting actress Judy Davis, and best writer Alison Cross.

The movie was based on the true story of Cammermeyer, an

Army nurse who found herself at war with the military when she disclosed she was a lesbian. Streisand and Close, who was also one of the film's executive producers, both paid tribute in their acceptance speeches to Cammermeyer, who was in the audience.

"Thank you," Close said to Cammermeyer, "for the privilege of trying to fill your shoes."

Mandy Patinkin won for best drama actor as an acerbic doctor in last season's other freshman medical drama, *Chicago Hope*. Patinkin, who will be leaving the show as a regular but making occasional appearances in order to spend more time with his family in New York, paid tribute to family values, technical crews, writers, executives and his family in a short but dramatic acceptance speech.

Among the big losers were *Friends* and *Seinfeld*, the popular comedies which are the anchors for NBC's much-promoted "Must See TV."

Friends didn't win any of its eight nominations, while *Seinfeld* only won one of its seven nominations.

The ceremony largely belonged to *ER*, which is going into its second season as one of the most acclaimed dramas in years.

Though every member of the cast of *ER* was nominated, only Julianna Margulies won for best supporting actress. In the acting categories, the *ER* actors and actresses faced off against each other.

One of the evening's first surprises came when Walston beat out *ER* nominee Eriq La Salle

and Noah Wyle in the best supporting actor in a drama series category. "May I say on behalf of all those on *Picket Fences*, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you!" a delighted Walston said.

Another upset came when the ongoing Emmy competition between late-night hosts Jay Leno and David Letterman finally turned Leno's way; his *The Tonight Show* beat out Letterman's *Late Show* for best variety, music or comedy series for the first time.

Accepting the award, Leno said he was stunned, but he collected himself enough to fire off a pointed reference to HBO's upcoming movie called *The Late Shift*, based on a book chronicling the battle between Leno and Letterman for *The Tonight Show* and late-night supremacy.

"I guess this means HBO will have to shoot a new ending to their movie," Leno quipped. (Los Angeles Times)

Beach Boy Brian is all washed up

NEW RELEASES
TIRZAH AGASSI

HAVE you ever wondered if you're just not getting it?

Throughout former Beach Boy Brian Wilson's three-decade career, diverse artists from Leonard Bernstein to Elton John, Neil Young, Bob Dylan and R.E.M.'s Peter Dinklage have acknowledged Wilson's "unique genius."

A documentary about him called *I Just Wasn't Made For These Times* was apparently enthusiastically received at the last Sundance Film Festival - a credit which I am inclined to take seriously.

However, when I listen to the album of the same name (Hed Arzi), produced by rock super producer Don Was, who also directed the film, *nothing* happens to me. If anything, I find myself thinking the kind of things that Beavis and Butt-head say out loud, and wondering what condition Tom Petty was in when he said: "I don't think you would be out of line comparing Wilson to Beethoven."

It is not that I don't appreciate Beach Boys' classics like "Good Vibrations" and "Help Me Rhonda," but Beethoven? I must also admit to having missed *Pea Sounds*, the Wilson album which Paul McCartney has called "perhaps the album of the century." It may well be, but somehow, though the new album has plenty of nice, harmony-filled moments, a 50-something-year-old man's managing to sound like a particularly naive, slightly off-key teenager just doesn't hit me as being a historical breakthrough. Cher's plastic surgery and tattooed pos-

terior are far more interesting blows against the ravages of time. Nonetheless, I could easily be missing the point. So if you loved the Beach Boys, check this one out.

"INNOCENCE" is an odd commodity to try to capture, let alone package, sell and finally (as in the case of Wilson, who allegedly spent years as a drugged-out zombie) retrieve. However, the Connells, a group from Macon, Georgia, who got together as a college band in '84, somehow manage to pull it off.

Their fifth album, *The Ring* (NMC), was released in '93 but it keeps on gathering momentum and getting released in new countries.

Israelis may be familiar with the song "74-75," with its video of middle-aged people juxtaposed against their high-school yearbook pic. It's got a memorable hook and a low-key realism that is the direct opposite of the kind of decadence to which so many popular musicians are attracted.

The Ring is an album with no pretensions. Six ordinary guys (one of them black) who wear their jeans loose, rather than tight or baggy, play a variety of instruments such as guitar, mandolin, organ and piano with grace and skill. Every once in a while one gets a whiff of old Traffic, Simon and Garfunkel, Byrds or Neil Young, yet there is something decidedly their own in the rich, full sound.

They sing songs that stay with you, about the ins and outs of



Wilson's solo effort, on which he sounds like a slightly off-key teenager, does little to show off his reputed genius. (C. Greystock)

trying to stay honest. Music that often swells with a sort of understated joy backs lyrics like "Sometimes I get the feeling things seem pretty nice/ Then again sometimes I'd like to leave you twice."

It's odd how an album so far from the romantic anthems that keep the pop industry going can, in its own steady way, buoy the innocence, faith or whatever it is that keeps people's spirits aloft.

This celebration of ordinary intimacy is a work that many people will want to take home.

ACE BLUES guitarist Gary Moore has made a profession of purple passion. In the past Moore has often conveyed the exquisite agony of a poor slob who's lost the only love he'd ever found. But on *Blues for Greeny* (Heli-con) he seems to have gotten on a more even keel. Oddly enough,

all but one of the songs are by P.A. Greenbaum, the legendary Peter Green whose passion for purity literally drove him insane.

Playing a 1959 Gibson Les Paul that he got from Green, one of the founders of Fleetwood Mac, he runs through many shades of love. The lyrics and his gravelly voice tell a number of often overstated tales.

But it's the guitar that blows you away, with its tender elo-

quence. Songs written by a young Jewish man emulating older black bluesmen come into their own delivered by a middle-aged Irishman who's been living and breathing the blues since his teens.

I don't know that "innocence" is the word to describe whatever it is that Moore has kept alive throughout the rough and tumble. But whatever it is, it is definitely worth listening to.

Barenboim soars above the petty politics of Jerusalem 3000

ANYONE would think, from its opening musical salvoes, that Jerusalem 3000 was designed to win European approval. The selection of three major works by Beethoven included "Christ on the Mount of Olives" and the Choral Symphony, which the European Community adopted as an anthem following the fall of the Berlin Wall. Yet Europe seems to regard the celebration, if not the city itself, as a nefarious Jewish plot.

Fortunately, the magisterial figure of Daniel Barenboim, conducting the Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin (Unter den Linden), rose above the petty politics. Barenboim's interpretation of the Ninth Symphony was exciting, vibrant and graceful.

According to the Argentinian-born, Israeli-raised conductor, "The relationship between sound and silence is like the law of gravity.... This is the basic principle of all musical interpretation."

Barenboim even delayed his own entrance long enough for the locals in the audience to start clucking "nu?" to each other.

On the podium, Barenboim expressed his obsession with the way a note relates to the silence that precedes it to good effect. Of several outstanding examples, the finest was the dramatic silence before the bass strings introduced the choral theme in the fourth movement.

Prior to this, early highlights included a very poignant flute - drawing the first movement to a close and weaving in and out of the bassoon sound in the second movement and the beginning of the third. The opening bars of the third movement were so sweet they sounded like part of Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony. The low point was the rasping of the horns in the second movement.

In the final movement, the powerful introduction of the horns, the smooth flow into the "Ode to Joy," and the dramatic silence that preceded the sound of tenor Peter Schreier all contributed to a superlative resolution.

This was a moving, memorable rendition. Such a culturally significant work deserves the genius and musical integrity of Daniel Barenboim, not the bombast and political opportunism of Leonard Bernstein in Berlin.

Jerusalem International Convention Center, September 8.
David Isaacson

IT took some time to adjust to seeing the orchestra and singers in front of oneself but hearing them from the left, to the staggered entrances of instruments which had probably started together, to the orchestra frequently overpowering the singers, and to a sound quality reminiscent of a living-room stereo.

The imperfectly synchronized

and balanced amplifying system of the Sultan's Pool greatly detracted from the German Staatsoper Berlin's performance of Beethoven's *Fidelio*, conducted by Daniel Barenboim.

The over-towering personality of this production, soprano Catherine Malfitano, grew into Leonard's role with powerful expressiveness as the part became more dramatic. In the role's lyrical moments, she seemed and sounded less at ease, intent on representing the idealized image of female strength and devotion, not romantic femininity.

With his warm and pleasant bass voice John Tomlinson, as Rocco, accomplished the change from an endearing buffo to moral integrity of heroic stature in his confrontation with Don Pizarro.

A novel experience was the minimalist Marcelline, soprano Carola Höhn, who displayed visible and audible advantages that made one understand Jaquino's (Erdrik Wottrich) falling in love with her.

These four rendered the first act's vocal quartet with all its inherent loveliness.

Kwang-Chul Youn's deep bass created a dignified and authoritative Don Fernando.

Thomas Moser's theatricality, as compensation for a too-pale tenor, was less than what Flores-

tan - although not quite a major role - deserved.

Falk Struckmann, in his well-tailored black suit and with his not sufficiently black and vicious-sounding bass baritone, looked and sounded more like a company director-general than a murderous villain.

The direction and sets of Stéphane Braunschweig and Giorgio Barberio Corsetti were resourceful in their sophisticated simplicity, carefully calculated for creating maximum effects with minimal means.

Sultan's Pool, Jerusalem, September 9.
Ury Eppstein

THE Israel Chamber Orchestra was the first to open its season this fall, and what a sad occasion it was. Under the baton of principal conductor Philippe Entremont, the ICO delivered one of the most boring concerts of recent years. The orchestra was not in such a bad shape: in the past year-and-a-half it's made much worse musical presentations. However, this concert was like a big ongoing yawn.

The overture to Rossini's *L'italiana in Algeri* was presented in a heavy cumbersome style completely alien to the vivacity and witty musical language of the composer and the buffo style of

the opera. After the intermission, there was a really dull Schubert opus - "Five German Dances, Seven Trios & Coda" - which was played without giving any care to details and style. The concert ended with Haydn's 101st symphony - the "Clock" - which on this case was ticking rather monotonously.

Through the concert, Entremont did not suggest any spark of understanding of musical style. His tempi were often questionable, the dynamics somewhat bizarre, and his overall romantic approach to classical music seemed rather awkward, to say the least. It was no wonder that under such conditions the orchestra could do nothing more than go along without any real fun or musical mirth.

When Entremont switched the podium for the piano stool and performed Mozart's concerto for two pianos K.365 with Ohad Ben-Ari, things were even worse. It seemed here, from the very opening bars, that one of the pia-

nists was playing Rachmaninoff and the other playing Tchaikovsky. Mozart was nowhere to be seen. Later on, there were some fine moments in this concert, but on the whole it was a very disappointing performance from soloists and orchestra alike.

Tel Aviv Museum, September 10.
Michael Ajzenstadt

Correction

The article on violinist Mark Peskanov which appeared in yesterday's paper was written by Michael Ajzenstadt.

TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15				
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	23	RAMI KLEINSTEIN	APPLES AND DATES
#2	2	7	GIDI GOV	SONGS FROM 'GOV NIGHT'
#3	3	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS	IT'S ALL FOR YOU
#4	4	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TOP POP '95, VOL. 3
#5	5	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS	NEW 31
#6	6	5	ABBA	GREATEST HITS
#7	7	26	ARIK EINSTEIN	FILLED WITH LOVE
#8	8	1	GLYKERIA	FAR, FAR AWAY
#9	9	1	GLYKERIA	GOLDEN HITS
#10	10	12	ETHNIX	COLLECTION
#11	11	1	RING GAL	HITMAN 8
#12	12	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS	NINI AND DOR
#13	13	6	ACHINOAM NINI	BIG BLUE
#14	14	1	FILM SOUND TRACK	FIELDS OF GOLD
#15	15	1	STING	

Tower Records' top-selling albums for the previous week. RE - re-entry

Flamenco fiestas conjure up the gypsy spirit

TWO flamenco events in Jerusalem in one week seem to be what the French call "an embarrassment of riches," but both did manage to qualify as "fiesta" - one at the Zionist Confederation House (September 3) and the other at the Morasha community center (September 7).

Calling itself El Duenda, a group of four dancers (one of them also a singer), a guitarist and a percussionist appeared in the Confederation House's little basement auditorium and made the most of its limited space. The guitarist immediately conjured up the *gitano* spirit.

The singer had the verve in her gypsy cantillations to evoke flamenco quality (though her middle register was sometimes "white") and her brief contributions as dancer were even better than her singing.

The three other dancers showed all the graces and skills that the tiny stage would allow. The percussionist added to the rousing rhythms. It was an hour of Iberian stimulus, which the group will be taking to the Acre Festival.

Micaela Harari, with a strong guitarist, staged a performance to launch a campaign

to add a flamenco studio to the Morasha community center. In the large, white-washed hall (obviously a gymnasium) she produced a warmth that was fiery enough to enliven the scene.

She began with a *Fuenco* (in a trousered costume) and went on to perform several dances wearing the traditional, wide-skirted dress. She made the sound on the floor echo with her volatile *Zapateado* and used the space for "travel" that gave style to her technique. It was really an astonishing demonstration in such a stark setting. Dora Sordeau



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BUSINESS & FINANCE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1995

Beilin to oversee sale of Bank Hapoalim shares

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat has decided that so long as the Fishman Group is one of the candidates to purchase a controlling interest in Bank Hapoalim, he will refrain from making any decisions or offering any guidelines regarding the sale of the controlling interest in the bank, including contract and price information.

The Treasury announced yesterday that negotiations will be handled by the Accountant-General and MI Holdings, and they will only give Shohat a general overview of the progress made in the sale negotiations.

Shohat's decision reflected the view of the Treasury's legal adviser, Tamar Hacker, formulated in consultation with the attorney-general, at the request of the finance minister.

Jerusalem Post Staff

In light of this, Shohat wrote to Economics and Planning Minister Yossi Beilin asking him, in continuation of their previous discussions on the matter, to take ministerial responsibility for the sale. He told Beilin that he would receive professional consultation on the matter as required, and that after the negotiations are completed, the selection of the buyer and conditions of the contract would be passed on to him for approval.

It was also made clear that if, in the end, the buyer is the Fishman group, the matter will be brought before a ministerial committee for approval consisting of the prime minister, economics and planning minister, and education and culture minister.

However, Shohat will participate in the general discussions to determine overall policy regarding the banks.

Two groups of investors interested in buying the controlling interest in the bank - The Renaissance Group and the Fishman Group, the latter mainly made up of companies controlled by Eliezer Fishman - deposited a deposit in the accountant-general's office on time, and were approved to participate in the process.

If the Bank of Israel finds the candidates meet the requirements to receive a controlling interest permit according to the Banking Law, it will issue them its approval in principle, and allow them to get detailed information about the bank via their own experts.

Court ups Goldin's sentence to 8 years

THE Supreme Court yesterday stiffened the sentence of former Clal Investment House managing director Arye Goldin, raising his period of imprisonment from six-and-a-half to eight years.

Since Goldin has already served four years, he could still be out in two years, if he gets his sentenced reduced for good behavior.

Goldin, who was considered the "golden boy" of the local business world during his tenure as Clal manager from 1986 through 1990, was convicted in Tel Aviv District Court in 1993 of embezzling NIS 24 million from the company and from investors who had entrusted their money to the firm.

Goldin was convicted on seven counts, with several different charges applying to each count. He had appealed his conviction on several of the charges and also

appealed the severity of his punishment. The state filed a counter-appeal, demanding his punishment be increased due to the severity of his crimes.

Goldin's lawyers claimed that one act could not constitute both fraud and theft, nor could a single act be both theft by an agent and theft by a manager.

But Justices Eliezer Goldberg, Theodore Orr, and Yitzhak Zamir did not totally accept this claim, noting that one act could constitute fraud against the company he worked for, and theft from the investors he was stealing from. They did acquit him of theft by an agent on five of the counts.

Noting, however, that his crimes "exceeded in their slyness," continued over a long period of time, and involved large sums of money, the justices increased his sentence. (Tim)

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Postal Authority cuts deficit: The Postal Authority improved its financial standing during the first half of 1995, with "only" a NIS 3 million deficit, instead of NIS 28m. during the same period last year. The deficit for the second quarter was NIS 240,000 or 1 percent of the red ink it had during the same quarter in 1994. Authority chairman Amos Mar-Haim said yesterday that the improvement was due to increased income and lower operating expenses. As a result of growing mail volume, operating expenses have dropped from NIS 213m. during the second quarter of 1994 to NIS 201m. during this past quarter. *Judy Siegel*

Aloni Enterprises, a marble and ceramics firm, completed the second quarter with a net profit of NIS 1.44 million, compared with a net loss of NIS 73,000 in the corresponding period last year. In the first six months of the year, net profits rose to NIS 1.45m. from NIS 475,000. In the same period last year. Second quarter sales rose to NIS 44.8m. from NIS 35.9m. In the first six months, sales increased to NIS 82.6m. from NIS 70.7m. Management attributed the rise to the operation of its national branch network. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

Agriculture Ministry workers will assess damage to farmers following natural disasters, in line with the state comptroller's and the attorney-general's recommendations.

The state comptroller and attorney-general recommended that the damage assessments for natural disasters not be conducted by the Fund for Natural Disasters in Agriculture, for reasons of possible conflict of interest. Since this fund offers insurance for certain types of disasters, it has an interest in increasing the government's payments to decrease claims against itself.

Ministry director-general Yonatan Bessey said the ministry plans to establish a division of 70 appraisers, headed by Menashe Meshulam. Meshulam is currently employed at the ministry's foreign trade division. Bessey said workers will be required to pass a six-month training course. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

The Manufacturers Association yesterday called upon the Treasury and the Ministry of Industry and Trade to more than double the fund to help companies market their products abroad.

The manufacturers are demanding the fund be increased to \$100 million from \$47m. The manufacturers' request is in response to proposals to cut the fund by \$40 million.

Ehud Geller, chairman of the Manufacturers Association's foreign trade division, said a cut in government assistance will significantly hinder exports. Geller emphasized more exports are needed to lower the growing balance-of-payments deficit. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

WORLD BRIEFS

Olivetti stock tumbles: Shares in loss-making technology and information group Olivetti plunged yesterday as investors stampeded out of the stock on news it planned to launch the biggest cash call in its history.

Company chairman Carlo De Benedetti said at the weekend Olivetti would seek \$1.4 billion in fresh funds from shareholders to speed up its restructuring program. *Reuters*

Daimler's loss exceeds worst expectations: German industrial giant Daimler-Benz AG said on Monday it lost DM 1.56 billion in the first half of 1995 - well above analysts' already gloomy expectations.

The loss, down from a DM 462 million profit in the same year-earlier period, reflected a DM 1.2b. provision for its troubled aerospace unit DASA, which was hurt by the weak dollar.

Daimler said the provisions for DASA were necessary because of a fall in the value of its aircraft order book, which is factored in dollars and has collapsed with the dollar's plunge against the mark. It suffered a DM 1.6b. operating loss in the period. *Reuters*

US manufacturers' profits weakened in spring: Manufacturing companies saw their sales and profits dip moderately during the spring quarter, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

A quarterly survey of about 9,200 companies showed that profits eased down in the second quarter to a seasonally adjusted 6.0 cents per dollar of sales from a revised 6.2 cents in the first quarter of the year. Previously, the department estimated profits in the first quarter at 6.1 cents per sales dollar. *Reuters*

British inflationary pressures ease in August: British inflationary pressures eased in August, according to official figures released on yesterday, providing further ammunition for Chancellor Kenneth Clarke in his campaign to hold down interest rates.

The Central Statistical Office said output prices, a measure of the cost of goods leaving British factory gates, grew at an unchanged monthly rate of 0.2% in August, while the annual increase slowed to 4.4% from 4.5% in July. *Reuters*

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (10.9.95)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.750	4.750	5.125
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.750	4.750	5.125
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.825	2.825	3.000
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.825	1.825	1.825

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES* (11.9.95)		BANKNOTES		Rate*
Currency	Rate	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.4118	3.4000	3.4236	3.4118
U.S. dollar	3.0122	3.0000	3.0244	3.0122
German mark	2.0488	2.0366	2.0610	2.0488
Pound sterling	4.6728	4.6606	4.6850	4.6728
French franc	0.0825	0.0813	0.0837	0.0825
Japanese yen (100)	3.0228	3.0106	3.0350	3.0228
Dutch guilder	1.8504	1.8382	1.8626	1.8504
Swiss franc	2.5012	2.4890	2.5134	2.5012
Swedish krona	0.4238	0.4116	0.4360	0.4238
Denmark krone	0.5301	0.5179	0.5423	0.5301
French mark	0.4701	0.4579	0.4823	0.4701
Belgian franc	0.0225	0.0213	0.0237	0.0225
Canadian dollar	2.2544	2.2422	2.2666	2.2544
Australian dollar	2.2544	2.2422	2.2666	2.2544
S. African rand	0.0525	0.0513	0.0537	0.0525
Belgian franc (10)	0.0225	0.0213	0.0237	0.0225
Australian dollar (10)	2.2544	2.2422	2.2666	2.2544
Italian lire (100)	1.2018	1.1896	1.2140	1.2018
Japanese yen	3.0228	3.0106	3.0350	3.0228
Swiss franc	1.8504	1.8382	1.8626	1.8504
Spanish peseta (100)	4.7500	4.7378	4.7622	4.7500

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

PIA - TARGET (MATARA) MUTUAL FUND (hereinafter: "Target")
PIA - PRIME MUTUAL FUND (hereinafter: "Prime")

Notice of General Meetings of the unit holders of the Funds

Notice is hereby given that general meetings of the unit holders of the Funds will convene on the dates specified below at the offices of the Fund Manager - Leumi-PIA Trust Management Company Ltd., 31 Montefiore Street, Tel Aviv, in order to approve the new text of the respective Fund Agreements replacing those Fund Agreements presently in force.

The changes in the Fund Agreements have been made partly to adapt them to the provisions of the Joint Investments: Trust Law, 5754-1994 (hereinafter - "the Law") and the regulations made thereunder and also include, among others, the following amendments:

- The Fund Manager will be entitled, subject to any prohibition on the matter contained in the Fund Agreement, and without requiring the approval of a meeting of the unit holders, to carry out any action, transaction and investment permitted by law.
- The Fund Manager will be entitled, from time to time, to decide that the Fund be changed into a restricted fund and alter such decision by causing the Fund to revert to its original status as an unrestricted fund, without requiring the approval of a meeting of the unit holders, provided that such change will only enter into effect at the beginning of a new calendar year.
- The Fund Manager will be entitled to add to the unit price or reduce the redemption price by an increment in accordance with the provisions of the Law, at a rate not exceeding 5% of the unit price.
- a. The provisions relating to the investment policy of Target may be changed by amending the Fund Agreement, without requiring the approval of a meeting of the unit holders.
b. Provisions concerning the diversification of the investment in a minimum number of companies have been deleted.
- The following changes will apply with respect to meetings of unit holders, in respect of which no other provisions appear in the Law:
a. The Fund Manager will be entitled to convene a meeting of unit holders after 7 days prior notice at the least instead of at least 10 days' notice.
b. A resolution passed by a majority of unit holders voting at the meeting will be binding on all unit holders instead of a resolution passed by a 75% majority of unit holders.
- Provisions have been made regarding the tenure of the post of Trustee and to the effect that if such tenure expires, the Fund Manager will be under a duty to appoint a replacement. The appointment of the Trustee, the duration and the conditions of his tenure (apart from an increase in his remuneration over that of his predecessor) do not require the approval of a meeting of the unit holders.
- a. One of the circumstances in which the Fund will be wound up will be by virtue of a resolution by the Fund Manager to wind up the Fund - this being instead of a joint resolution by both the Fund Manager and the Trustee.
b. Notice concerning the winding up of Prime will be adopted and published at least 30 days in advance instead of 60 days in advance.
- In the Target Agreement, the need to publish at least 30 days in advance in two newspapers, a change in the remuneration of the Fund Manager or the Trustee or of a change in calculating the average annual value of the Fund assets for the purpose of determining the remuneration of the Fund Manager or the Trustee is to be abolished (such reporting concerning a change in the remuneration of the Fund Manager and the Trustee having been regulated by the new Regulations).

The new text of the Fund Agreements including, as mentioned, the changes mentioned above together with other changes to the existing Fund Agreements, may be inspected at the offices of the Fund Manager, during regular working hours until the time the meetings are held and, in the event of adjourned meetings, until the holding of the adjourned meetings.

The new text of the Fund Agreements is subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Capital Market, Insurance and Savings at the Ministry of Finance, or of a Ministry of Finance employee empowered in that behalf, after consultation also with the Chairman of the Securities Authority. It is possible, therefore, that changes will be made in the new text of the Agreements following requirements made by these authorities. If such changes are finalized with these authorities and it is possible to submit them to the meeting, it will be possible to inspect the amended text of the Agreement, as mentioned. If the text of the changes is not finalized by the time the meeting is convened, the meetings will be requested to approve the Agreements subject to changes, if any, agreed upon thereafter.

Fund names and times of the meetings:

Fund Name	Day	Date	Time
Target	Friday	22.9.95	9.00 am
Prime	Friday	22.9.95	9.30 am

If no quorum is present within half an hour of the time appointed for holding the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned to the same time on the same day of the following week at the same place, and if no quorum is present within half an hour of the time appointed for holding such meeting, the unit holders present will be deemed to constitute a quorum.

The following are entitled to attend and vote at meetings:

- A registered unit holder of the Fund according to the register maintained by the Manager of the Fund.
- A person submitting to the meeting an authorization (given for the purpose of attending the meeting) by a stock exchange member regarding the holding of units in the Fund through such stock exchange member (hereinafter - "authorization").
- A person holding a proxy to vote from a person entitled to attend and vote at a meeting mentioned above, provided such proxy is deposited at the office of the Fund Manager mentioned above, at least 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting and in the event the appointer under the proxy is entitled to attend and vote at the meeting by virtue of an authorization, such authorization shall be produced to the meeting.

The Funds' Manager: Leumi-PIA Trust Management Company Ltd. September 12, 1995.

LEUMI-PIA MUTUAL FUNDS

August trade deficit hits \$1.1 billion

Post Economics Staff

LAST month's trade deficit was \$1.1 billion, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. Imports totaled \$2.36b., while exports stood at \$1.26b. The figures do not include trade between Israel and Judea, Samaria, and Gaza.

The trade deficit (excluding diamonds and fuel) for the first eight months of the year was \$5.7b, an increase of \$1.8b. over the same period last year.

Seasonally adjusted figures - excluding ships, planes, diamonds, and fuel - show that the deficit widened by 2%-4% a

month over the last two months. This was attributed to a continuing increase in imports, while exports remained steady.

About half of August's \$2.36b. in imports consisted of raw materials; 21% was diamonds and fuel; 16% automobiles and auto parts; and 13% consumer goods.

The export total of \$1.26b. was relatively low compared to the previous two months because of a seasonal drop of some \$200 million in diamond exports. Eighty percent of exports were industrial goods, 18% diamonds, and 2% agricultural products.

Congress to sanction clinical drug tests here

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE US Congress is set to pass legislation which would allow clinical drug testing to be carried out in foreign countries, including Israel.

FDA deputy general director Sharon Halston made the statement yesterday to a group of pharmaceutical firms - Teva, Agis, and ICL - and major health and academic centers.

The occasion was a seminar on clinical trial planning, management, and inspection to standardize Israeli test procedures to

match those required by the FDA. The event was held under the auspices of the US-Israel Science and Technology Center, the Trade and Industry Ministry, and the Office of the Chief Scientist.

Yair Amitay, managing director of the Israeli Center for R&D (MATIMOP), which organized the event, said standardized testing would significantly assist in developing industries in the fields of medical equipment and peripherals, as well as diagnostics.

Security exhibition opens today

RAINE MARCUS

SOME 100 companies specializing in security and civil defense equipment will participate in the ninth annual security exhibition opening today at the Tel Aviv Exhibition grounds.

The exhibition will last until Thursday, and tomorrow a seminar on various security subjects will be held at the congress center.

The exhibition, organized by Sigma Team together with the Export Institute, will be attended by visitors from 25 countries including senior officers from security services and police from Nigeria, India, and Fiji. Some 30 security experts from the Nigeri-

an police force, banks, and fuel companies are also expected to attend.

Delegations from security companies in Poland, Latvia, and China have also promised to visit, following a massive campaign by commercial attaches worldwide to attract potential buyers.

Commercial representatives from Qatar and Abu Dhabi are also expected to attend this week.

Israel, said Sigma's Ze'ev Omer, has the potential of becoming the Middle East's civil security center and plans are under way to make the exhibition an international yearly event.

Companies will display sophisticated closed-circuit TV systems, safes, electronic gates and fences, magnetic identity cards, machines for detecting wiretapping devices, intercom systems, personal protection clothing, televisions, and others.

The organizers said that in view of the international trend of safeguarding businessmen, information, and commercial and shopping centers, Israeli companies can contribute to a growing international industry and increase exports.

Other companies participating in the exhibition represent firms abroad, and provide services and equipment to police and security services here.

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ISRAELI DISCOUNT BANK

مكتبة الاسرائيل



UEFA may punish Switzerland after some of its players staged a protest against France's resumption of nuclear tests. A group of Swiss players unfurled a banner saying "Stop it Chirac" during the playing of the national anthems before the start of the European Nations Championship qualifier against Sweden in Gothenburg last Wednesday. (Reuters)

Coleman's hot streak lifts Hapoel J'lem

CHARLES HARRIS

HAPOEL Jerusalem answered a wake-up call midway through the second half and rallied from a 13-point deficit to defeat Hapoel Tel Aviv 87-82 in the National Basketball League opener for both clubs last night at Ustshkin.

Norris Coleman, back with Jerusalem after a year with Maccabi Tel Aviv, led the visitors with 29 points, including 20 after intermission. He tied Tel Aviv's Radenko Dovroski for game-high honors.

Adi Gordon, who also returned to Jerusalem after playing for Holon last year, added 23 points including 15 in the first half. His four free throws down the stretch helped keep Tel Aviv at bay. Pini Levy added 11 for the victors.

James Terry poured in 14 points and Nanad Markovich added 10 points in a losing effort for Tel Aviv.

Last night belonged to the timely scoring of Coleman. With 15 minutes left in the game, and Jerusalem trailing 57-44 Coleman lifted the spirits of his teammates and coach Pini Gershon with a one-man scoring show. He nailed two open jumpers, the second on a loose ball as Jerusalem started to rally around him.

A Tel Aviv time-out did not help matters as Jerusalem had the opportunity to regroup around Coleman. Pini Levy, who totaled just two points in the first half, nailed a three-pointer and Coleman poured in 14 of the next 18 points including a flying dunk as a 13-point deficit turned into a three-point lead.

Doron Shefa, who recorded the other four points during Jerusalem's astounding run, put the visitors ahead to stay, 63-62 and finished with 16 points.

Hapoel Tel Aviv took a 47-40 half-time lead to the locker room thanks in part to 17 first-half points by Dovroski against his former teammates.

Hapoel Jerusalem might have been helped psychologically by the return of Papi Turgeman, who suffered a season-ending knee injury last season in a game played between the same two teams. However, Turgeman picked up his third foul in the first half, sat out the final three minutes and did not score in his first game back.

Tomorrow, Maccabi Ramat Gan hosts defending champs Maccabi Tel Aviv in the final game of the National Basketball League's first round.

Chelsea tops W. Ham

LONDON (AP) — John Spencer scored two goals as Chelsea defeated London rival West Ham 3-1 last night for its first win of the Premier League season.

Chelsea captain and midfielder Dennis Wise struck first in the 32nd minute and Spencer got his first goal three minutes later for a 2-0 lead.

Don Hutchison scored in the 73rd minute to bring West Ham to within 2-1.

Both teams went into the game without a victory this season. With the win, Chelsea moved up to mid-table with six points after five games. West Ham has two points, ahead only of Manchester City.

Costas, Uecker jazz up baseball

SPORTSWATCH

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

THE kids were back in school, Costas and Uecker were at the Stadium. American football had returned, and the US Open was offering two great showdowns. All told, it was the kind of week couch potato dreams are made of.

The biggest treat of all was Super Channel's transmission of NBC's *Baseball Night in America*, featuring the Red Sox and Yankees in the Bronx, and broadcast by the always intelligent Bob Costas and the always hysterical Bob Uecker.

Watching a major league baseball game on television has rarely been as enjoyable, not only because our beloved Yanks stomped the Sox, but also thanks to the superb job both broadcasters did.

Costas was always on target, either offering nice statistical input — including the factoid that Don Mattingly's career fielding percentage is the highest ever by any position player in the major leagues — or recalling after Darryl Strawberry's home run off Tim Wakefield that Red Sox pitching coach Al Nipper had been similarly touched up by Strawberry in the '86 World Series.

Uecker, the former big league catcher, was in rare form, even for him. Noting that the Red Sox

regular catcher had gone home to be at his wife's side for the birth of a child, he recalled: "The Braves told me that I should go home, because my wife was expecting. I went three times and finally realized I wasn't married."

Uecker was on target with his analysis, too, noting before the game that if Wakefield's knuckler "doesn't dance, it'll prance" out of the park. Before too long, both Strawberry and Yankee catcher Mike Stanley had made a prophet of Uke.

The two are a superb broadcasting team, and did a great job. Super Channel offers its next game this Friday night/Saturday morning at 2 a.m. local time: if Uke and Costas are behind the mike, don't miss it.

FOOTBALL was back on the screen on Prime Sport, but the dolts in Hong Kong let the US Open cut into the return of the Raiders to Oakland last weekend, giving us only the second half. Nothing against the Open, but Prime should've showed the football game on tape delay if they knew there would be scheduling problems.

Carlton struggles past Brisbane Bears

MELBOURNE (AP) — Carlton surged in the final quarter Sunday to shake off the determined Brisbane Bears and boost its chances of winning the Australian Football League premiership.

The Blues won 13.12 (90) to 12.5 (77) after trailing by six points late in the third quarter against a team that was making its playoff debut.

The Bears were eliminated from the playoffs after suffering only their second loss in their last nine games.

Captain Stephen Kernahan kicked five goals for Carlton, which scored its 21st win of the season, while Anthony Koutoufides landed three goals in the final term in front of a 52,000 crowd.

Gilbert McAdam led Brisbane with three goals but the Bears lacked strike-power up front.

In other games, North Melbourne defeated Richmond by 30 points and Essendon downed the defending champion West Coast Eagles by 19 points.

Geelong, which finished second in the regular season standings behind Carlton, eliminated Footscray with an emphatic 82-point win Saturday night at the Melbourne Cricket Ground and joined Carlton in earning a one-week rest.

The Cats won 24.11 (155) to 10.13 (73), sealing the win with 10 goals in the opening quarter.

Full-forward Billy Brownless, standing in for Gary Ablett, scored four goals and helped create three others during the first quarter. He had a total of six goals, while Shayne Breuer kicked five.

"Some of our work in that first

quarter was as good as we have produced all year," said Geelong coach Gary Ayres.

Footscray coach Alan Joyce was distressed by his team's lack of commitment. "It was a disastrous night," he said. "We were totally humiliated."

North Melbourne captain Wayne Carey and full-forward John Longmire each kicked five goals as the Kangaroos downed Richmond 17.12 (114) to 12.12 in a roller coaster match during which the lead changed nine times.

Essendon, chasing its second premiership in three years, took full advantage of West Coast's lack of scoring power as it triumphed 11.8 (74) to 8.7 (55) win. Half-forward Mark Mercuri, who had been in doubt for the game with a shoulder injury, led Essendon's scoring with four goals, while 17-year-old Matthew Lloyd and Stephen Alessio kicked two each.

West Coast center-half-forward Fraser Gehrig finished with three goals but was the only Eagle to kick more than one.

Carlton and Geelong now get an automatic berth in the elimination semifinals with North Melbourne facing the West Coast Eagles and Essendon meeting Richmond in elimination matches next weekend.

Collated results of first-round AFL playoff matches this weekend: Carlton 13.12 (90) def. Brisbane Bears 12.5 (77); Geelong 24.11 (155) def. Footscray 10.13 (73); Essendon 11.8 (74) def. West Coast Eagles 8.7 (55); North Melbourne 17.12 (114) def. Richmond 12.12 (84) (Brisbane Bears and Footscray eliminated).

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor

Beersheba-Barcelona showdown tonight

ORI LEWIS

BEERSHEBA'S big day has arrived.

The capital of the Negev today hosts the biggest soccer match in its history when the local Hapoel side takes on European giant Barcelona in the first round of the UEFA Cup.

The southern desert city is abuzz for the occasion and maintenance men worked through the night to prepare the municipal stadium for the expected capacity crowd of 15,000 for tonight's match which kicks off at 8 p.m.

Barcelona's lineup is still not finalized, although coach Johan Cruyff has said he will announce his team at lunchtime today.

While a Beersheba victory, even on its home ground, would be a truly sensational result, the locals are not overawed by the occasion.

They will be taking the field with the intention of making the visitors work all the way. Viko Hadad's men have an agenda of their own, although things are already not as rosy as they might have been. Sergei Gusev, the hosts' most dangerous striker so far this season, is out of the match after suffering an injury to his heel at the weekend.

The state of Gusev's heel was the subject of some debate yesterday as Beersheba trained at its home ground, but Hadad finally decided that he

would not risk a partially-fit player even on his bench. The Russian will therefore have to watch from the stands.

Cruyff has an embarrassment of riches and because UEFA rules allow the inclusion of only three foreign players, he may be forced to leave out Romanian star Gheorghe Hagi from the squad.

Barcelona is taking the match very seriously. "We will go out to play attacking football, we'll give it 100 percent," Cruyff said yesterday.

Cruyff's son, Jordi, a player in the side almost certain to be in the starting lineup, has only one idea in mind. "All we want is a win," he said.

Captain Jose Maria Bakero was quoted in Spain as saying: "We will treat Beersheba as if it is Manchester United." If that is the case, the Beershebans had better watch out. In last year's Champions' League fixtures, United suffered a humiliation at the hands of the Catalan giants.

After much deliberation and negotiation, the match will be shown live on Channel 1. Beersheba had been holding out before selling to the highest bidder, and Channel 1's \$100,000 was the best offer.

The significance of the occasion has prompted President Ezer Weizman to travel south, where he will be "the spectator of honor" at the match.

Dramatic one-run win keeps county championship race alive

UXBRIDGE (Reuters) — A dramatic one-run win by Middlesex over Leicestershire yesterday ensured England's tightest county championship in years will go down to the final round next week.

Reigning champion Warwickshire beat Derbyshire by 10 wickets earlier in the day and only needed Middlesex to lose to keep the title.

Leicestershire gave chase for the 251 runs for the victory which would keep the crown at Edgbaston, but spinners Phil Tufnell and John Emburey kept Middlesex fighting to the final week.

The pair took nine wickets between them and appropriately combined for the match winning dismissal with just nine balls to go when Emburey caught Alan Mullally for Tufnell's fifth wicket, the match and the 21 points which kept the London club within 15 points of Warwickshire.

The final round sees Warwickshire travel to play Kent in Canterbury starting Thursday, while Middlesex goes to Somerset.

Middlesex must win well and hope Kent does likewise if it is to pull off a remarkable victory from behind.

Given two sessions to chase the target, Leicestershire was four for 145 at tea and struggled to

eight for 204. Adrian Pierson and Matthew Brinson put on 23 for the eighth wicket and then Pierson and Mullally edged to within two runs of knocking Middlesex out of the race until Mullally swung Tufnell high to Emburey at mid-wicket.

Tufnell finished with five for 100 (10 for 202 in the match) and Emburey took four for 81.

Northamptonshire also had a slim chance of taking the title, but it needed Warwickshire to lose to Derbyshire as well as next week.

Warwickshire was also hot, disposing of Derbyshire before lunch on the fourth and final day.

The visitors, who had resumed on 31 for three, slipped gently to 122 all out as Allan Donald struck twice more and captain Reeve took three wickets in two overs.

At Edgbaston, Warwickshire beat Derbyshire by ten wickets, Derbyshire 268 and 122 (A.Donald 5-43). Warwickshire 387-8 declared and 5-0. Warwickshire 24 points Derbyshire 5.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire v Kent match abandoned. Lancashire 269-8. Lancashire 2 points Kent 3.

At Scarborough: Yorkshire v Sussex match abandoned. Sussex 357-8. Yorkshire 3 points Sussex 4.

At Cardiff: Glamorgan beat Nottinghamshire by 189 runs. Glamorgan 417-6 declared and 213-0 declared (H.Morris 104 not out, S.James 101 not out). Nottinghamshire 319-6 declared and 122 (R.Croft 5-47). Glamorgan 22 points Nottinghamshire 5.

At Uxbridge: Middlesex beat

Leicestershire by one run. Middlesex 338 and 212-2 declared (M.Ramprakash 111 not out). Leicestershire 300-5 declared (V.Wells 124, W.Croft 84) and 249 (W.Croft 53, J.Winter 51; P.Tufnell 5-100; J.Emburey 4-81). Middlesex 21 points Leicestershire 7.

At Southampton: Hampshire v Somerset match drawn. Somerset 333 and 100-0 declared and 190-5 (J.Laney 72; M.Hartley 4-57). Hampshire 4 points Somerset 3.

At Northampton: Northamptonshire beat Warwickshire by five wickets. Warwickshire 196 and 237-6 declared (W.Weston 89; K.Curran 4-78). Northamptonshire 174-9 declared and 265-5 (A.Fordham 126). Northamptonshire 20 points Warwickshire 4.

At Bristol: Gloucestershire beat Durham by 19 runs. Gloucestershire 350-6 declared and 77-0 declared (A.Symonds 54 not out). Durham 172-7 declared (S.Hutton 60; J.Lewis 4-34) and 236 (J.Morris 70; M.Ball 5-65; J.Lewis 4-87). Gloucestershire 25 points Durham 2.

County Championship Table

Team	P	W	L	T	Points
Warwickshire	18	12	2	2	99.5
Middlesex	18	12	2	2	99.5
Northants	18	12	2	2	93.5
Lancashire	18	10	3	3	87.5
Gloucestershire	18	6	4	4	80.5
Leicestershire	18	7	8	1	81.5
Sussex	18	7	9	0	84.5
Yorkshire	18	7	9	0	81.5
Somerset	18	7	5	4	87.5
Warwickshire	18	6	7	3	79.5
Nottinghamshire	18	5	8	3	81.5
Hampshire	18	5	8	3	82.5
Surrey	18	5	8	3	81.5
Gloucestershire	18	5	8	3	81.5
Derbyshire	18	3	10	3	60.5
Kent	18	3	9	4	42.5
Durham	18	3	9	4	42.5

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High Court hears Klingberg appeal

JUDY SIEGEL
and Irit

THE High Court of Justice yesterday heard the appeal of convicted spy Dr. Marcus Klingberg, who has asked to be released from prison for health reasons.

The justices examined the classified material submitted by the state, which opposes the release on security grounds, and said they would issue their ruling at a later date.

Klingberg, 77, was convicted 12 years ago of passing information on Israel's biological weapons research to the Soviet Union, while he served as deputy head of the Biological Institute at Ness Ziona.

For the first time, journalists were permitted to be present for the presentation of the non-classified evidence and to see and photograph Klingberg. Klingberg

looked ill, trembled through much of the hearing, and did not seem to be following the proceedings.

Meanwhile, the prestigious *British Medical Journal*, read by more than a quarter of a million physicians around the world, has published a letter from an Israeli doctor demanding Klingberg's release.

Dr. Ruhama Marton of the Association of Israeli-Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights in Tel Aviv, writes in the August 26 issue that Klingberg is the oldest man in the Israeli prison system. Marton notes that Klingberg, who once had a worldwide reputation for his work on congenital malformations and was head of preventive medicine at Tel Aviv University's medical school, is



Convicted spy Marcus Klingberg appears in the Supreme Court yesterday for his appeal hearing. (Brian Hessler)

very ill.

Last year, Prof. Shlomo Shiboleet was twice allowed to conduct a medical examination of the prisoner and found considerable deterioration in his health. Marton noted, Klingberg suffers from episodes of angina pectoris, tran-

sient ischemic attacks and neurological abnormalities and was likely to die soon, she said.

Marton's organization demanded in the letter to *BMJ* that the courts grant him an amnesty and let him spend his remaining days with his daughter.

A return home after 33 years in Syria

JACOB DALLAL

MOHAMMED Badwan returned to his home in Ein Nakuba, in the Jerusalem corridor, yesterday, after being stranded in Syria for 33 years.

The village was one big party last night, as relatives welcomed back the white-haired man of 50 whom they last saw as a teenager.

"There were so many people gathered, we could hardly touch him," said Tibla Ibrahim, a cousin, who says she remembers Badwan from her youth.

Back then, Badwan left the village to work as a baker in Tiberias. One day in 1962, he and some friends took a boat out the Kinneret. They accidentally drifted to the Syrian side of the lake. The others were able to escape, but Badwan, who didn't know how to swim, was arrested by the Syrian army.

The Syrians interrogated and

then released him, but he was not permitted to return to Israel. For seven years, his family thought he was dead.

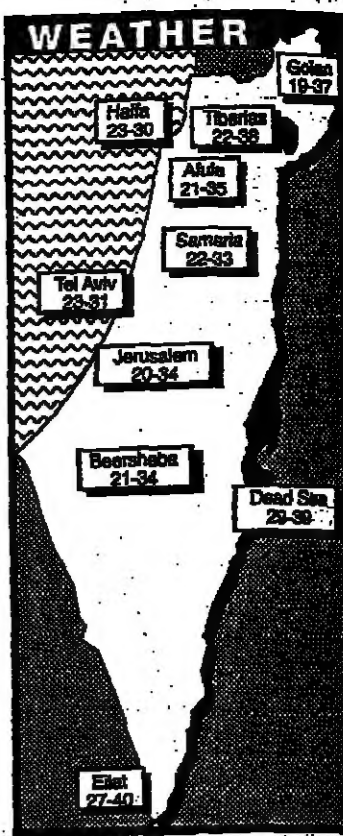
Badwan had meanwhile settled in a refugee camp, where he worked as a baker and later married and had five children.

"When his brothers got word he was alive in Syria, they began sending him money through Jordan," said Abed Yousef, a neighbor.

After the peace treaty with Jordan, the brothers spent three months there arranging Badwan's release.

"Several months ago, we heard he would be coming back," Yousef said.

His brothers and sisters met Badwan at the border, when he crossed with his wife and three of their five children.



Forecast Hot and dry.

AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Temp	Wind	Clouds
Jerusalem	22-34	10-15	Partly
Tel Aviv	24-32	10-15	Partly
Haifa	22-30	10-15	Partly
Beersheva	21-34	10-15	Partly
Dead Sea	22-38	10-15	Partly
Eilat	27-40	10-15	Partly
London	12-18	10-15	Partly
New York	15-22	10-15	Partly
Tokyo	18-25	10-15	Partly
Sydney	20-28	10-15	Partly
Moscow	10-18	10-15	Partly
Paris	14-21	10-15	Partly
Rome	16-23	10-15	Partly
Berlin	12-20	10-15	Partly
Madrid	18-26	10-15	Partly
Amsterdam	10-18	10-15	Partly
Stockholm	8-16	10-15	Partly
Helsinki	6-14	10-15	Partly
Oslo	4-12	10-15	Partly
Reykjavik	2-10	10-15	Partly
London	12-18	10-15	Partly
New York	15-22	10-15	Partly
Tokyo	18-25	10-15	Partly
Sydney	20-28	10-15	Partly
Moscow	10-18	10-15	Partly
Paris	14-21	10-15	Partly
Rome	16-23	10-15	Partly
Berlin	12-20	10-15	Partly
Madrid	18-26	10-15	Partly
Amsterdam	10-18	10-15	Partly
Stockholm	8-16	10-15	Partly
Helsinki	6-14	10-15	Partly
Oslo	4-12	10-15	Partly
Reykjavik	2-10	10-15	Partly

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, king of hearts, eight of diamonds, and ten of clubs.

Pollard's wife to appeal rejection of citizenship

News agencies

THE wife of Jonathan Pollard will appeal the government's refusal to grant her husband Israeli citizenship, her attorney said yesterday.

Mordechai Ofri, the attorney for Esther Pollard, also said that Pollard's supporters had gathered the signatures of 85 of the 120 MKs in support of a private member's bill to grant citizenship to Pollard, who was convicted in the US of spying for Israel.

"Our next step is the Supreme Court. In the next days, we will appeal, and then hope the judicial system sees things differently than the Interior Ministry," said Ofri.

The refusal to grant citizenship was announced by Interior Minister Ehud Barak. A ministry statement noted that while the government in the past had granted citizenship to some jailed Soviet Jewish dissidents, its general policy was not to give citizenship to Jews before they immigrated here.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, Pollard's rabbi and an active lobbyist on his behalf, said yesterday that Barak's decision "would have a serious effect on the mental and emotional state of Jonathan Pollard."

The private bill is to be sponsored by MK Rehavam Ze'evi of Moledet. Ze'evi's spokeswoman Peninat Yanay said the Knesset could not take up the issue until mid-October, when it reopens for its winter session.

Clinton supports restitution for Jewish property

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton is supporting efforts by the World Jewish Congress to recover property seized from Jews in Eastern Europe by Nazis and their collaborators and then taken over by the Communists.

Clinton has sent a letter to WJC President Edgar Bronfman, saying, "We must confront and, as best we can, right the terrible injustices of the past."

A copy of the President's letter was obtained yesterday, on the eve of meetings in Brussels between the World Jewish Restitution Organization and European parliamentarians.

"Restitution of Jewish and non-Jewish property unjustly seized during more than 50 years of war, occupation and dictatorship is a complex and emotional subject," Clinton wrote Bronfman, in the letter dated last Friday.

"Each country's situation is different, and solutions may take different forms as well. But it is important to have begun."

The countries involved are Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland,

Romania, Russia, Slovakia and Ukraine.

An announcement is expected in Brussels of agreements with two of the countries, Hungary and Romania.

The Czech Republic's government has enacted a law to return Jewish communal property in Bohemia and Moravia, Slovakia's parliament has legislated the return of Jewish property taken after November 1938.

Bronfman and Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg are meeting in Brussels to discuss plans to try to recover Jewish funds that were confiscated by the Nazis and deposited in Swiss banks by during the war.

Later in the week, Bronfman intends to go to Geneva for talks with Swiss bankers. The banks also hold prewar accounts of Jews who were later murdered by the Nazis.

The World Jewish Restitution Organization was set up in 1992 with Israel's cooperation to research confiscation cases and national laws and to help negotiators with governments of all European countries except those of Germany and Austria, which deal with the Claims Conference.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, flanked by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat (left) and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, cuts the ribbon at yesterday's inauguration of the Kfar Shmaryahu interchange. (Alan Ron/Israel Son)

Kfar Shmaryahu interchange opens

HAIM SHAPIRO

The Public Works Department yesterday inaugurated the new Kfar Shmaryahu interchange on the coastal highway, hopefully freeing what Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer described as the national traffic jam.

The interchange, which cost some NIS 45 million, was built

with an underpass on the main highway, to satisfy the demands of the surrounding local councils and local residents, whose objections had caused the project to be delayed by several months. To avert flooding, the underpass is

to be serviced by five giant pumps, backed up by an emergency generator, in case of a power failure.

Yesterday's ceremony, at which Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin spoke, was interrupted

briefly by dozens of right-wing demonstrators, who had managed to enter despite massive police presence. Rabin noted that over the past three years some NIS 6.2 billion has been invested in road building, of which NIS 360 million went into the building of interchanges.

US rabbis vehemently deny calling Rabin a traitor

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

ISRAELI and American Orthodox officials vehemently denied reports yesterday that American rabbis accused Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of being a traitor. And the rabbis are waiting for

Rabin himself to deny the reports as well.

Newspaper accounts of a meeting last week in New York between Shmuel Hollander, the cabinet secretary, and officials of the Rabbinical Council of America were "completely twisted," said one Orthodox official. "We never said such a thing."

But Orthodox leaders are exasperated at being reminded, in the words of one, that "calling Rabin a traitor is crossing the line." "We are getting annoyed at this nonsense," said Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, an RCA official.

Several rabbis noted that the Jewish community had denounced the lone American rabbi who made that statement earlier this summer.

"Why [are Israelis] rebuking us for comments that Rabin gave in Israel?" asked one Orthodox official.

When Hollander met yesterday with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, he apparently reiterated that the Americans cannot call the prime minister a traitor.

"Enough is enough," Schonfeld said after the meeting.

"[Hollander] gave me his personal assurance that he would not do it again and that Rabin's office will issue a clarification that this never happened."

Last week's meeting had been characterized as "stormy." However, sources said yesterday that Hollander was not fully prepared for his first encounter with the mainstream Orthodox community.

"We raised all the usual challenges," said another Orthodox leader, including the security of the settlers, the inability to extradite terror suspects from Gaza, and fears about giving the Palestinians control over additional territory.

"He was overwhelmed."

Mr. Arafat, don't touch Jerusalem, you will burn your hands!

Ulrich Hartmann

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